

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND
Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

No. 1899.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1853.

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The Administration of the East India Company; a History of Indian Progress. By John William Kaye. Bentley.

An Address to Parliament, on the Duties of Great Britain to India, in respect to the Education of the Natives and their Official Employment. By Charles Hay Cameron. Longman and Co.

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THE new India bill is at length before the country. Whatever may be the fate of the ministerial measure, and whatever changes may take place in the outward forms of administration, there is no doubt that the present discussion must lead to great improvements in the actual government of the Indian empire. It has always been matter of complaint that, except on rare and great occasions, it was impossible to secure for Indian questions a due share of public attention. This apathy has at last been effectually destroyed. The influence of the press on public opinion will henceforth keep in prominence subjects which even Parliament might be tempted to neglect. In the public journals the affairs of India now occupy a regular place, and are discussed in a tone and at a length somewhat commensurate to their importance. A multitude of works have also been lately published, the titles of some of the more conspicuous of which are prefixed to the present article. Although in great measure prepared with reference to the existing political crisis, and referring to the proposed changes on the renewal of the Company's charter, they contain matter of more permanent importance, and deserve the careful study of all who are interested in Indian affairs.

Mr. Kaye's book is almost of an official character. It bears on its title page the mark of its origin and its object. 'The Administration of the East India Company' and 'A History of Indian Progress,' are by this advocate of the Court of Directors pronounced synonymous. This was the burden of the long address of Sir C. Wood in introducing the Government measure. His speech was, indeed, an abstract of the facts of Mr. Kaye's book, just as Lord John Russell's speech on education was an abstract of that of Sir J. Kay Shuttleworth. In both cases the industrious labours of the authors were used by the ministers as the foundation of their official statements. Sir Charles Wood went over much the same ground, and in somewhat the same order, as Mr. Kaye in his elaborate volume. The speech and the book are open to similar censure, while deserving similar praise. The good and great works done by the Indian Government in past times are ably narrated and justly commended. The faults and misdeeds are carefully suppressed, and, in the record of many things done, the things left undone are unnoticed. Mr. Kaye is candid enough to say that he purposely suppresses reference to whatever is "disheartening," and that he only proposes to write what "may encourage the zealous and stimulate the active." With such a design the book can hardly be expected to give a

fair view of Indian administration, though it does serve its other purpose of being a history of Indian progress. Since "the East India Company keep a historian," his history naturally presents the most favourable view of the administration which he has engaged to celebrate and defend. With this passing protest against the omissions of the work, we proceed to the more agreeable duty of noticing some of the points which it ably presents. Our extracts must be few, and selected rather for the sake of showing the spirit and style in which the volume is written than of giving any idea of its miscellaneous contents.

The work is divided into four parts; the first, giving a sketch of the history of the past governments of India; the second, describing the revenues and public works; the third, the judicial system and the police; the fourth containing miscellaneous chapters on social subjects, including suttee, infanticide, and other usages; the fifth part relating to education and the progress of Christianity in India. The closing paragraphs of the first part express the author's sentiments as to the present position and views of the Company and the Court of Directors:—

"The Acts of 1813 and 1833 affected, in a very important manner, the character of the Board of Control, and rendered its controlling powers more absolute and entire. The authority of the Board had not extended to the trade of the Company. But now the Company were about to be deprived of their trade, and so of nearly all their remaining independence. The 'United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies' were fast ceasing to be a Merchant Company at all. Ever since the British flag had first waved over the Subahdary of Bengal, it had been said that a trading Company and a fighting Company were antagonistic one with the other, and that in course of time the greater would swallow up the less. But it took nearly half a century of increasing empire to absorb even the first moiety of the Company's trading privileges. And then, I fear it must be said of them, that they had lived their time. At all events, they had outlived the patience and forbearance of the people. The temper of the age was growing less and less attuned to the conservation of exclusive rights and corporate monopolies; and now, in 1813, the gigantic preserve, the legal boundaries of which had been maintained for more than two centuries, was about to be thrown open to the incursions of all the vulgar traders of the land. I do not know what I might have thought of the matter had I been alive at that time. I have great respect for the Company's trade. I believe that, under Providence, to the preservation of the Company's monopoly we owe our Empire in the East. But long before 1813, it had fulfilled its mission; and I cannot look back upon its extinction with regret.

"For this much at least is certain—that when the Company began to think less of trade, they began to think more of government. Under the Charter Act of 1813, which deprived them of the monopoly of the Indian trade, their administrative efficiency considerably increased. But it was under the Act of 1833, which left them without the compromise of the China monopoly—which deprived them of the last remnant of their trading privileges, and took from them even the name of a Merchant Company, that greater progress has been made towards good government, than throughout all the long years—the long centuries—when trade was uppermost in their thoughts. I believe that the directors of the East India Company, since they ceased to be the managers of a leviathan mercantile firm, have taken more serious and enlarged views of their duties and responsibilities as guardians of a country inhabited by a hundred millions of fellow-men. I believe that there has been more wisdom in their councils—more nobility in their aims—more beneficence in their measures. They have now become a purely administrative body;

and it is impossible for any one, tracing, step by step, as I have done, the growth of that close connexion which now exists between them and the people of India, not to mark a progressive enlargement in the scope of their views, and a progressive improvement in the character of their measures. There have been more good things done for India—there has been more earnest, serious, enlightened legislation for the benefit of the people, under the Act of 1833, than during the previous two centuries and a quarter of British connexion with the East. And yet never has a benevolent Government, recognising the great truth that Peace is the mother of Improvement, ever been confronted, in its career of internal amelioration, by so many impediments to success.

"That Act was a most important one in other respects than in the total abolition of the Company's commercial privileges. Of some of its provisions I have already spoken. Indeed, the changes which it introduced affected principally the local governments. I speak of it here mainly because I date from it the dawn of a brighter era—because I believe that under that Act the administrative machinery of the Home Government, divested of all commercial clogs and incumbrances, began to perform its appointed functions as it had never performed them before. It would have been difficult for any government, invested by an Act of the supreme legislature, with new powers and responsibilities, to have taken a more enlarged statesman-like view of its position, or to have recorded its sentiments in a more humane and enlightened spirit, than did the East India Company in this great conjuncture. Reviewing the whole question of Indian government, as affected by the provisions of the new Act, they wrote out to the supreme Government of India a comprehensive letter, in which they earnestly exhorted the local authorities to give, in all respects, the most liberal interpretation to its enactments, and to make it the instrument of conferring the greatest possible benefit upon the people under their rule. It can never, with truth, be said that they had not a due sense of the mighty responsibility entailed upon them as the rulers of a hundred millions of their fellow-creatures, when it is seen how reverently they be thought themselves of their own obligations, and how earnestly they exhorted the Indian Government to the due performance of theirs."

After quoting from the letter of the Court of Directors in 1834, Mr. Kaye concludes with these words, which convey an exact representation of the spirit in which his whole book is written, and indicate the views which it is his object to expound:—

"Since this admirable letter was written, the general principles which it enunciated have been repeatedly illustrated, from time to time, in the correspondence of the Court of Directors; and I believe that nothing would so much redound to their honour—nothing would so clearly exhibit the progressive improvement in the administrative earnestness and efficiency of the East India Company, as a selection from their own despatches. Shackled by debt—embarrassed by exhausting and distracting wars, of which they have been not the authors, but the victims—they have not been able to give full effect to those measures of internal amelioration which demand the material support of an overflowing treasury. But I do not see any reason to suppose that, under such circumstances, any other administrative body would have done more; and, if it can be shown by a recital of what they have done, that the progress of good government, all obstacles and impediments fairly weighed and considered, has been relatively commensurate with that in our own country, I think that it would be more just and more reasonable to commend them for their good deeds than to censure them for their omissions. The good deeds are assuredly theirs. The omissions may be the growth of circumstance."

On the subject of the taxation of India the author goes into great detail; but the general principles on which the revenue is raised are

explained in the following passage, where the difference from our home taxation is put in a simple and satisfactory light:—

"In England, every new Chancellor of the Exchequer has some new financial scheme to propound. The taxation of the country is the battlefield of party. We are continually being taxed or untaxed in one direction or another. It seems sufficiently easy and reasonable, if one scheme of taxation is not found to answer, to try another. The Finance Minister of the day stakes his reputation and his place upon some pet project of his own which is publicly enunciated in Parliament, and in the course of twenty-four hours disseminated by the press throughout all the remote places of the empire. If the project be unpopular, it is abandoned. The scheme falls to the ground, and perhaps the Minister falls with it. There is a little excitement for a few weeks, but the popular indignation is soon appeased, and the triumph is not that of the people over the Government, as the representative of constitutional authority, but over Government as the representative of a party. Constitutional authority is not weakened by these miscarriages. A new phalanx of administrators take their place on the Government benches, and a new experiment is made. The people of England have no horror of change. Indeed, they do not think that justice is done them if financial novelties of one kind or another are not from time to time presented to the country. They must have something for their money, even though it be a change for the worse.

"But nothing of this is applicable to India. In every single respect the case is precisely the reverse. The people of India will bear a great deal so long as they are used to it. They are very intolerant of change. They do not understand it. They are timid and suspicious. Benevolence and wisdom may go hand in hand in our measures, but the people are not easily persuaded that what we are doing is for their good. There is for them no Parliament and no Press. They have the vaguest possible idea of the intentions of their rulers. They do not think—they do not inquire—but with child-like haste and impetuosity resent the innovations which are intended to confer benefits upon them. Fiscal changes are especially dangerous. We cannot experimentally without peril on such a people. We may relieve them of old burdens, and impose lighter ones upon them; but the probability is, that the open disaffection of the ignorant masses would compel us to abandon our benevolent projects, with a loss of dignity and an injury to the prestige of our authority not easily to be computed. The failure in such a case is not the failure of a party or the failure of a man, but the failure of the paramount governing power in its abstract constitutional integrity.

"It is necessary, to a right understanding of the subject of Indian taxation, that these considerations should have reasonable weight. If the Government could be administered without money, or if money could be raised without taxation—one or both of which beatitudes some writers would seem to consider attainable—we might leave the land unassessed, the salt untaxed, and cease to cultivate the poppy. But we must assume in this case not only the necessity of taxation, but the necessity of maintaining such taxes as will embrace in their network the largest possible area of population. In such a country, and with such a people, there is little choice left to the financier. Where the millions live almost entirely on the produce of their rice-fields, with only a rag about their middle, and a few brass pots for their household goods, there is no very extensive field for the display of financial ingenuity. There are fifty different ways in which the English tax-gatherer may get at the poor man. But in India the approaches to the mud hut of the labourer are few; and the tax-gatherer must advance by them or keep away altogether. He has been going for a long time along the same beaten roads. The people have learnt to look for him in certain directions, and even if better paths to their domiciles could be found, they would resent his approach by them.

A tax on cultivation is not a good thing—a tax on salt is not a good thing. But the people cultivate the lands, and they eat salt; it would be difficult to find a substitute for these imposts, and if a substitute were found, it is probable that the people would reject it."

The question of the employment of native agency in government, and the admission of Asiatic subjects to the higher offices in the local administrations, is one of the most important in the whole range of Indian controversy. The impolicy as well as the injustice of their exclusion is now generally admitted; and even Mr. Kaye thus expresses himself:—

"The admission of the natives of India to the highest offices of the State is simply a question of time. 'I believe,' said a distinguished member of the Company's service, before the Committee of the House of Commons, 'that our mission in India is to qualify them for governing themselves. I say, also,' he continued, 'that the measures of the Government, for a number of years past, have been advisedly directed to so qualifying them, without the slightest reference to any remote consequences upon our administration.' Long before it became their duty to review the clauses of the Act of 1833, the Court of Directors had continually exhorted their servants in India to prepare, through the agency of improved systems of education, the natives of the country for higher official positions than they had yet been qualified to hold. And these exhortations had not been thrown away. What the ultimate effect of their great educational measures must be, it is not difficult to conjecture. Our mission will be fulfilled sooner or later. The only question is a question of time."

If the time at which the admission of natives is to be sanctioned is left to the Court of Directors it will yet be far distant. On this point we quote the opinion of Mr. Hay Cameron, whose official position in India, as President of the Law Commission, President of the Council of Education, and one of the Members of the Supreme Council, gives him the greatest weight as an authority:—

"Can the East India Company reasonably hope to exclude the Asiatic subjects of the Queen from all the higher offices of their native country, without submitting the reasons by which they hold themselves justified to the criticism of the world, and without declaring whether they intend the line now drawn to be permanent, or only provisional?"

"It may be said that they were not bound to explain themselves to Sir Edward Ryan and myself. Certainly they were not. But if they had felt that they had just reasons for making the present line of exclusion a permanent one, they would naturally have been glad to seize the opportunity of stating those reasons, which they surely might have done without anything like humiliation.

"Their position is, in one respect, unfortunate. They have one powerful motive for persisting in that course which, to judge from external appearances, they seem to have adopted, which will not bear the light. If any of the covenanted offices of India are to be given to natives, the patronage of the Directors must so far cease to have that kind of value for which patronage is usually desired. When I say that this motive will not bear the light, I mean only that it will not bear the light considered as antagonistic to the duty of governing India in the interest of the people of India. Considered in itself, it is far from being a flagitious, though it is a selfish motive.

"The distribution of the higher offices of India among such of their own friends and relations as are fit for them, is not, in my judgment, a proceeding which would merit any censure, if it did not necessarily operate to the exclusion of the natives from those offices. So far from it, that, if the diminution of the patronage were alleged as a ground of compensation, I should range myself on the side of those who might support such a claim. But if this patronage is to prevent Great

Britain from doing what is just by her Asiatic subjects, it is a thing to be unhesitatingly sacrificed.

"Now this patronage, if it is to be preserved entire, does, I am afraid, prevent Great Britain from doing what is just by her Asiatic subjects; and that, not only by excluding them from offices to which a paternal government would surely admit them,—to which, I doubt not, that the unperverted philanthropy of the Court of Directors would admit them; but, also (and this is, in my mind, a much higher consideration), by throwing an impediment in the way of their receiving that sort of education which would make their claim to the covenanted offices appear, in the eyes of the world, irresistible."

The reference in this last passage to the education of the natives leads us to notice the representations made on this subject by Mr. Kaye:—

"The system established by Lord William Bentinck has been maintained with little variation by his successors. The Committee of Public Instruction, now known as the Council of Education, has numbered among its members some of the ablest and most enlightened men who have ever braved the damp heats of Bengal. Under their superintendence, encouraged alike by the local and the home Governments, they have given due effect to this system, and the result has been, that with the aid of a highly-cultivated staff of educational officers, they have rendered a large number of Hindoo and Mahomedan youths familiar with the amenities of European literature. The proficiency attained in the principal scholastic institutions is such as is very rarely acquired by boys of the same age in any other country in the world. I do not believe that there are half-a-dozen boys at Eton or Harrow who could explain an obscure passage in Milton or Shakespeare, or answer a series of historical questions, extending from the days of Alexander to the days of Napoleon, with as much critical acuteness and accuracy of information, as the white-muslins students who, with so much ease, master the difficult examination-papers which it has taxed all the learning and all the ingenuity of highly-educated English gentlemen of ripe experience to prepare, would in any such trial of skill put our young aristocrats to confusion.

"All this is past dispute—the proficiency is admitted. But there has seldom been much more than the proficiency of the clever boy. A very few exceptional cases, just sufficient to prove the rule on the other side, might be adduced to show that European education has struck deep root in the native mind; but the good seed commonly fell by the way-side, and the birds of the air devoured it. All the enervating and enfeebling environments of Indian life, at the critical period of adolescence, closed around the native youth, to stupify and to deaden both the intellectual faculties and the moral sense. The Hookah and the Zenana did their sure work. And in a year or two there was little left of the bright-faced, quick-witted boy who could put the Penseroso into good English prose, tell you who were Pepin and Charles Martel, and explain the character of the 'self-denying ordinance' as accurately as Hallam or Macaulay."

An account is then given of the various schemes for attempting to turn to good account the knowledge acquired in early life by the native youths. But Mr. Kaye does not refer to the notorious mischief which the Government schools and colleges are doing by their exclusion of the Bible and of religious instruction. He says, indeed, in one place—

"My individual opinion is, that the Bible might be safely and profitably admitted into the Government school-rooms, like any other class-book. But there are very many able and right-minded men who think differently on this most important subject, and it is not the object of this work to deal with controversial matters, or to attempt to settle vexed questions of so delicate a character as this."

Yet, on the same page, a most glowing pic-

ture is drawn of the noble labours of Dr. Duff, and of the Scottish missionaries:—

"It was in the month of May, 1830, that Alexander Duff, a minister of the Church of Scotland, arrived at Calcutta. He was then a very young man, but his wisdom was far in advance of his years. Never was purer zeal—never sturdier energy devoted to a high and holy calling. He went out to India charged by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland with the duty of establishing an educational institution for the purpose of conferring on native youths all the advantages of social and comprehensive European education—an education, indeed, of the highest order, 'in inseparable conjunction with the principles of the Christian faith.' It was a great experiment—a few years before it would have been a dangerous one. But Duff never so regarded it. He began his work; and he waited. He opened his school with seven pupils; and ere long he had 1200. There was never any reservation on the part of Duff and his associates. It was openly and generally avowed that the Holy Scriptures were taught in the schools. But the native children came freely to the Christian institution, and regarded their Christian teachers with affection. There are missionary schools scattered over all parts of India, and freely the children come to be taught, but there is not one which, either for the magnitude or for the success of the experiment, can be compared with those presided over by Duff and his associates. Bombay and Madras share worthily in these honours; and the educational achievements of their Scotch divines deserve to be held in lasting remembrance."

The education of the natives is by far the most important of all the questions connected with the future condition of India, and to it we shall devote an article next week, in noticing the works of Mr. Campbell and Mr. Prinsep.

A Few Words in Reply to the Animadversions of the Reverend Mr. Dyce on Mr. Hunter's 'Disquisition on the Tempest,' (1839), and his 'New Illustrations of the Life, Studies, and Writings of Shakspeare,' (1845), contained in his work entitled 'A Few Notes on Shakspeare; with Occasional Remarks on the Emendations of the Manuscript-Corrector in the Mr. Collier's Copy of the Folio, 1632.' By the Author of the 'Disquisition and the Illustrations.' John Russell Smith.

Notes and Emendations to the Text of Shakspeare's Plays. By J. Payne Collier. The Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged. Whittaker and Co.

THE above pamphlet with the long title is a short contribution to the mass of Shakspearian criticism of which last week we predicted a coming deluge. It contains one or two suggestions worth noting on the margin of one's Shakspeare, but of no sufficient importance to merit detailed notice. It is written in a commendable spirit of good temper and fairness, which contrasts agreeably with the angry acerbity of Mr. Singer, whose volume was noticed by us last week.

The second edition of Mr. Collier's 'Notes and Emendations' derives its chief interest from the preface, whence it appears that he has traced his amended Folio of 1632 as coming in all probability from a library at Upton Court, Berkshire, which formed the residence of a family of the name of Perkins, which name, with the prefix Thomas, it will be remembered, was inscribed on the volume. There is a show of probability that Richard Perkins, the celebrated actor of the reign of Charles I., may have belonged to this family; and this circumstance would explain the

peculiar character of many of the emendations. But it does not appear that Mr. Collier has discovered any facts to connect the emendations directly with authentic MSS. Their claims to consideration remain, therefore, precisely as before. Mr. Collier has in the present edition modified or withdrawn several of the opinions expressed by him in the former edition. Much as we think him mistaken in many respects, we are bound to recognise the candour and perfect fairness with which he in all cases maintains his argument. Of the storm of wrath which his innovations have drawn down upon him, he thus writes:—

"As the instrument of communicating these emendations to the world, in a genuine spirit of inquiry into their merits, I cannot well account for the almost personal animosity with which, in some quarters, I have been already met, and with which I am threatened hereafter. My accidental discovery of the corrected folio, 1632, has, I fear, tended to cool friendships of long standing; and individuals with whom I was formerly acquainted, now look upon me as if I had done them some injury which they could not overlook, and yet did not know how to revenge. Some persons complain that I am too dogmatical; others, that I am too bold in my speculations; a third party thinks that I have not done justice to earlier editors; and a fourth (which I apprehend is the greatest grievance of all,) that I have unfairly abridged the field for future speculation. As to the charge of dogmatism, it will be found, in the present edition, that I have never hesitated to qualify or withdraw an opinion where I have seen reason to change it; if I have been bold, it has been where I imagined (perhaps mistakenly) that I had a right to take a firm position; if I have not done justice to previous commentators, the omission was wholly accidental and unintentional; and if those who shall come after me, as editors of Shakspeare, find the bounds of conjectural improvement considerably narrowed, I hope that disappointment will not cause them to lose their temper as well as their time, bearing in mind that all we ought to aim at is the true understanding of our author, and that a just estimate of that author must more and more convince us of our own insignificance. It is the fancied neglect of imaginary importance that seems to have irritated some of my would-be adversaries."

If Mr. Collier continues to meditate on his emendations in this calm temper of mind, his third edition will be as much better than his second, as that is better than his first.

Explosions in Coal Mines; their Causes, and the Means available for their Prevention or Control. By J. Kenyon Blackwell, F.G.S. Taylor and Francis.

Our Coal Fields and our Coal Pits. Nos. 42 and 43 of 'The Traveller's Library.' Longman and Co.

THE House of Commons is the great author of the age—the greatest, perhaps, of any age. It enjoys the privilege of having its works printed and published to any extent at the expense of the country. The voluminosity of its writings is probably due in the main to its monopoly of this privilege; for not a few prolific scribblers, who measure their lucubrations by bulk and material weight, would become rivals to the House, did they enjoy equal opportunities, and ran no risk of ruin by indulgence in the expensive luxury of printing their unreadable productions. 'Blue-books' are truly the great unread. Yet their contents are often both wonderful and amusing. Some future Disraeli the Elder may construct an entertaining miscellany out of the curiosities of blue-book literature. The

report, upon which Mr. Kenyon Blackwell's able pamphlet is in great part a commentary, might furnish an amusing chapter.

It is probably not known to the people who pay for the printing of blue-books that in 1852 a Committee of the House of Commons undertook to put a stop to all future explosions in coal mines. They sat four entire days—actually four days at their Palace in Westminster, and one at—the Polytechnic Institution. The managers of that excellent establishment doubtless fully appreciated the *éclat* that must necessarily follow this identification of their interests with the well-being of England, and permitted the members of the Committee to enter without paying the usual small charge of one shilling per head. After five days' gestation, the Committee concluded their labours, the rapidity of the painful operation having been considerably accelerated by the chemical manipulations at the Polytechnic. A blue-book was the result—like most infants of its species, we fear, still-born. Want of vitality, resulting in a defective circulation, is often indicated even in human infants by a blueness of the skin.

The object of the adjournment of the Committee to North Regent Street was to get chemical information. If we are not greatly mistaken, Parliament votes annually sundry monies which go towards the remuneration of eminent scientific chemists whose time and studies are devoted to the service of Government. They seem to us to be the proper persons to furnish advice, at least, in the first instance. Possibly, the Committee, finding their own knowledge hardly reaching the elements of chemistry, went where they might acquire information in its most rudimentary condition. Children consult horn-books before dictionaries. It may be asked, however, whether persons in this condition of mind are qualified either to inquire into or report upon questions such as engaged this Committee. We know that juries and lawyers occasionally discuss and decide upon scientific matters wholly beyond the comprehension of men unprepared by the requisite preliminary studies. This capacity of the ignorant to sit in judgment is almost a fundamental principle of many of our institutions. Is it desirable that it should be sanctioned by the great legislative assembly of the empire? Amidst the many projects for the reform of the House of Commons, is there none that looks farther than a mere extension of the suffrage? Can we not represent learning and science in that House as well as money and numbers? All men are agreed that the future welfare of this and other nations will depend upon educational development. The direction of that development will in a great measure depend upon legislation. As long as we have a legislative body—in other words, as long as the British nation shall exist—our statesmen and representatives will discuss and direct the course of education and the scientific interests, so far, at least, as they concern the material well-being of the nation. Yet, with few exceptions, it is not inside the walls of the Houses of Parliament, or among the ranks of the Privy Council, that the enlightened scholars, philosophers, and practical men of science of Great Britain would seek for members for committees upon these matters.

Amateurs in scientific inquiries are proverbially presumptuous. The Committee of 1852 upon Explosions in Collieries follow the rule. These gentlemen, in the face of science

and experience, decide that the Davy lamp, that inestimable invention of one of our most illustrious philosophers, is not only valueless as a safeguard, but is the cause of explosions. A job, or something very like one, possibly lies at the root of this decision, however unconscious the Committee of being influenced by interested motives. "The common course of the majority of minds," remarks Mr. Blackwell, truly—he might have added, "of common-place minds,"—"when their attention is called to some great evil, resulting probably from complicated causes, the nature and connexion of which are not clearly visible, is to seek some great panacea which shall effect an immediate and perfect cure of the evil which they desire to remedy." The Committee find their panacea in the Steam Jet, which seems to have impinged its force upon their minds to the exclusion of all consideration of the varied conditions involved in the devising of a perfect system of ventilation in mines. As amateurs, by a rule of their kind, constantly prefer the evidence of amateurs, the Committee made no effort to procure complete information, but contented themselves by adopting and embodying a report published in 1842 by some gentlemen in South Shields, all of whom had no practical acquaintance with mining.

Trifling and futile as such proceedings unquestionably are, good may come out of them collaterally. In this instance the public have reaped a benefit through the patriotic exertions of Mr. Nicholas Wood, who, apparently astounded at the decision of the senators, instituted a series of experiments on the ventilation of mines. The results settle the case against the conclusions, authoritatively and in opposition to those arrived at almost universally by practical men, put forward in the last blue-book on colliery explosions. Year after year fearful accidents happen; hundreds of human lives are sacrificed; misery and ruin are spread among families. Year after year the causes and remedies are discussed, and at spasmodic intervals a parliamentary jury settles both cause and remedy to its own—and no one else's—satisfaction. On the last occasion this tribunal denounced the safety-lamp as a chief source of fatal mischief, in the face of the fact that many of the most destructive explosions within the last half-dozen years, involving the loss of more than five hundred lives, have occurred in collieries worked with naked lights. It is in vain to hope to stay the course of death by systems either of inspection or ventilation whilst such carelessness is permitted, and worse than folly to abandon the safety lamp when men destroy themselves in crowds through neglect of it. Among the suggestions offered by Mr. Kenyon Blackwell, in an excellent letter to Lord Palmerston, forming part of this pamphlet, is one so simply and evidently practical, as to commend itself to every earnest miner, the more so since it comes from a writer who is at once a man of science and a practical man, and who has acted with ability as a commissioner in the inquiry respecting mines. It is to make the use of unprotected lights and fire, in the air-currents of mines yielding fire-damp, contrary to law. We believe that an enactment to this effect would be more to the purpose than all the parliamentary enquiries that have been or that will be made. Mr. Blackwell proposes, in case of such enactment, that the miner, should he survive an accident arising from neglect of the requisite precautions, or his family, in case of

death, should have power, under statute, to sue for damages in a court of law. He seems even to question the necessity of Government inspection in event of these proposals being adopted. His case is a strong one and well put, his argument sound, his facts incontrovertible, and the remedies proposed by him feasible. We hope, for the honour of Parliament, that the matter will now be regarded from a common-sense point of view, and that there will be no more occasion for committees cabbaging to the Polytechnic in search of a magical extinguisher for colliery explosions.

Those who are interested in the ways and works of coal-mines and coal-pits will find a good and lively account of them, with much excellent scientific matter in a pleasant and readable form, in the new number of the 'Traveller's Library.' This little book is a good one, and evidently written by a man who has got up his subject in the coal-field as well as in the best books. Railway readers travelling northwards, and members of Parliament travelling to Westminster, may pass their time agreeably and profitably in the perusal of it. Intelligent Englishmen ought to know something of a subject so intimately linked with their country's welfare as well as with their daily comforts. In one district alone, that of the Northern Collieries, nearly 26,000 men are employed in coal-mines, and ten millions of capital invested.

Chamois Hunting in the Mountains of Bavaria.

By Charles Boner. With Illustrations by Theodore Horschelt, of Munich. Chapman and Hall.

To sportsmen and to travellers who have been in the regions of chamois hunting, the mere title of this work will be sufficient inducement to its perusal. Accounts of the chase in the mountains of Bavaria or the Tyrol, if written in ever so matter-of-fact a style, could hardly fail to have a dash of excitement and romance in them. The stories and legends of Alpine huntsmen, even in those districts which are open to the common herd of tourists, would form many a volume of stirring interest. Mr. Boner's book will delight the lovers of wild sport; but it is one which will also please the general reader. He is an enthusiastic sportsman; but he is also a true lover of nature, and he describes with graphic power the scenery of his adventurous exploits. The man who, with his rifle in his hand, often longed to have Christopher North and Edwin Landseer as his companions, has a soul superior to the mere animal excitements of the chase, and we are prepared by the following passage in one of the opening pages for other matter in the volume than mere details of sporting adventure:—

"What would I not have often given could, hearty old Christopher North have been with me to enjoy the sight,—to have watched the driving mists coming upwards from the valley, and have listened for a sound amid that silence and solitude. He rather paints than describes; his words are colour, with which he fills a canvas, and so presents you with a picture of the scene. And then, too, that other master of his art, Edwin Landseer—what a new field was here for his truthful pencil! Hardly a day ever passed but some grand effect, some picturesque group, or some striking incident reminded me of him, and made me wish that he could be there, to catch the happy moment and give it a permanent existence. The peculiar tone of that mountain scenery, the expressive features and bold characteristic bearing of the chamois, the occasionally perilous positions of the hunter,—all

this, and much more beside, would, with his poetic mind and wonderfully skilful handling, afford such pictures as even his hand has not yet produced."

We may take extracts almost at random to show the style of the book; but from the passages which we have marked we shall endeavour to select those that will best give idea of the variety of its contents. The story of a day's sport on the Krammets Berg, under the guidance of Solacher, a renowned hunter, thus commences:—

"By half-past three the next morning I was downstairs, and while breakfasting, Solacher was busy with his frying-pan cooking the usual meal of schmarren. We were soon off. The stars were shining brightly, yet as we passed along the pine-wood I rather followed my companion by the sound of his voice and his footsteps than by the aid of sight. By the time we got to the foot of the Krammets Berg, however, the darkness was waning, and one by one the stars disappeared. The strange faint dimness, similar to that which hovers over the earth during an eclipse, began to spread; the gloom rolled back, and presently red tongues of brightness announced that day was at hand. The Zug Spitz first saw its coming, and flushed in growing refugeance over the still night-bound world. As the day streamed down its sides, the mists and vapours receded, and the mountain-tops came forth, rising from out the cloudy ocean below us as from the midst of the waters on the third day of creation. Soon the whole chain of the Tyrolian Alps was uncovered, and lay beaming before us in the first glad flush of the morning.

"Above us, in our more immediate neighbourhood, the forms of things now grew more distinct. It was no wild spot nor much broken: here and there the latschen trailed along, sometimes in dense clumps and sometimes singly. In looking to the left amongst fragments of rock we saw a splendid buck: he was leisurely nibbling the buds of the green branches he found there, quite unconscious of our presence. Between us and him was a broad deep fissure, and all the intervening space was bare, so that to get near him unobserved was almost impossible. While looking at his fair proportions, and wishing that it were practicable to get even a long shot at him, he put an end to our hopes and speculations, by moving slowly away. Before doing so he turned his head in the direction where we stood, and lifting it high in the air gazed for a moment, and directly after was among the latschen. We saw him again at intervals, as he bore away to the opposite side of the mountain. It was very tantalizing, for it was a chance if we should see so good a buck that day. The older bucks are generally alone: they keep too in solitary nooks and inaccessible places; and if at early morning they are with the herd, they leave it betimes to stray and feed alone.

"Look! there are chamois!" said Xavier, pointing to the crest of the mountain a considerable distance to the right of where we were ascending. "Don't you see them?—yonder, right up against the sky."

"On the ridge were several black forms moving about,—now vanishing, then re-appearing. As we got higher we saw them quite distinctly even without the glass; and it was a pretty sight to watch them as they disported themselves, leaping and bounding over the ground."

The chase, as may be supposed, is often attended with extreme danger, and on one occasion our author had a narrow escape:—

"There was a broad, slanting surface of crumbling rock where we now stood, like an immense table, one end of which was lifted very high. It seemed as if this must lead out of the clam, or at least to a good height up its side; on this therefore I advanced cautiously. The slope did not end on the ground, but about twenty-five or thirty feet from it, and then fell abruptly to the jagged rocks below. The plane was so inclined that to walk there was hardly possible. Every now and then the brittle surface would crack off: however, diffi-

cult as it was, and in spite of a slip or two, I managed to proceed. At last I was obliged to go on all fours. Some minutes after I began to slip backward. The stone crumbled away as it came in contact with my thickly-nailed shoes, which I tried to dig into the rock, and thus stop my descent. I strove to seize on every little inequality, regardless of the sharp edges; but as my fingers, bent convulsively like talons, scraped the stone, it crumbled off as if it had been baked clay, tearing the skin like ribands from my fingers, and cutting into the flesh. Having let go my pole, I heard it slipping down behind me, its iron point clanging as it went; and then it flew over the ledge, bounding into the depth below: in a moment I must follow it, for with all my endeavours I was unable to stop myself. I knew the brink must be near, and expected each second to feel my feet in the air. Xavier, who by some means or other had got higher, looked round when he heard my stick rebounding from the rocks, and saw my position. To help was impossible,—indeed he might himself slip, and in another moment come down upon me. He looked and said nothing, awaiting the result of the next second in silence.

"I had made up my mind to go over the brink, and thought all was lost, when suddenly one foot, as it still kept trying to hold by something, was stopped by a little inequality, arresting me in my descent. I was very thankful, but still feared the piece of rock against which my foot leaned might crumble like the rest, and let me slip further. Hardly venturing to move, lest the motion might break it off, I gently turned my head to see how near I was to the brink: my foot had stopped not a couple of inches from the edge of the rock,—but thus much further, and I should have gone backwards over it. The depth of the fall was not enough to have killed me, but quite sufficient to break a leg or arm and a rib or two. Slowly and with the utmost caution I lifted my rifle higher behind my back, and, hardly venturing even to do so, drew one knee up and then the other, and again crawled forwards.

"Be careful," said Xavier, now for the first time breaking silence, seeing the danger was past; and he went on.

"He presently called to me not to come further, to stand aside and look out for stones; and directly after one came leaping down and whizzing through the air. I went toward a wall of rock that rose upright beside the inclined plane above referred to, and hardly had I reached it when larger fragments of rock came leaping by me into the chasm below: they passed close before my face, and then for the first time I comprehended the terrific force of such missiles, and the havoc they are capable of causing in mountain warfare. They were pieces of rock that Xavier had detached in climbing upwards, and the impetus with which they came whirling by made them bound back with renewed force from every object in their way, and shoot out far beyond the brink before they fell. They then swept on, out of sight, while the clam re-echoed with their rolling; but deep and oppressive as was the stillness of that yawning place, the silence thus broken had something discordant, something unearthly in it, and I was almost glad when the sounds died away in some distant hollow."

Pleasant scenes of social and domestic comfort sometimes succeeded to the rough toils of the day, as in a mountain cottage belonging to a family related to one of the guides:—

"At the same moment with ourselves these daughters entered the room of the cottage. They had, it seems, been to a neighbouring village wake, and had only just returned. It was dark when we came in, but now a light was brought; and as I turned suddenly to look at her whose voice and friendly manner had already prepossessed me, I was struck by the beauty that was close beside me, and bursting at once upon me through the dispersing gloom. It took me by surprise, and she must have been other than a woman not to have rightly interpreted my long astonished gaze. There was not even a shade of coquetry about her; if there

had been, she would have kept on her becoming green hat a minute or two longer; but she smiled on seeing the mischief she had done, and with friendly words inquired where we had been.

"She was of commanding height, this fine-featured second sister, and the long dark-coloured cloth cloak made her look still taller. It was simply drawn together at the throat; and, falling in natural folds closely over her shoulders, gave dignity to the figure without preventing you from discovering the outline of the womanly form. On her head she wore the picturesque high-crowned green hat peculiar to these valleys, over the brim hung the tassel of green and gold, and at the side were a bright red rose and other artificial flowers. Her braided brown hair showed itself beneath the broad brim of the hat; and as I afterwards looked at her finely-marked features, and at the beautiful outline running from the tip of the ear to the chin—which, by the way, is more seldom seen in perfection than any other part of the face—I could not help thinking that such a bonnie green hat was, after all, the most becoming head-gear a girl could wear.

"But beside the full-blown flower was another, a full bud just about to unfold and burst into opening loveliness. It was the youngest sister—Marie. She hardly ventured to raise her large dark eyes to the stranger, and quickly left the room to lay aside her hat and cloak. She returned however soon after; and never did I so earnestly endeavour to inspire confidence as now, when doing my best to win trust in my good faith from this sweet-mannered village maiden. It was difficult at first to entice her into conversation; but later, when she saw that the rough-looking creature before her was gentle in his demeanour, and treated her with comely deference, she would gradually lift her eyes as she smiled a reply; and eventually, though timidly at first, would let them rest full and fearlessly on the stranger's countenance. Yet later, when our supper came, and I begged them all to sit at table and sup with us, I could not prevail on this coy girl to eat with me, or drink out of my cup. It was not fitting that she should do so, she answered; yet when my companion made her the same offer, she at once accepted it, and laughed and chatted with him right merrily. If I could only have made her believe that I too was an assistant forester; or, by my faith, have really become one for that modest lassie's sake!

"The eldest of the sisters was no beauty, but there was an open honesty about her—indeed this they all had—and she possessed a store of such genuine, healthy, sound common sense, that I always liked to talk with her. She was a famous knitter; and many of the peculiar sort of stockings, richly ornamented, worn by the young foresters both far and near, have been produced by her skilful fingers."

There is a chapter specially on the natural history and habits of the chamois, from which we give the account of their marvellous swiftness and agility:—

"There is perhaps no animal so peaceful and at the same time so timid as the chamois. Nature, therefore, besides endowing it with a facility of climbing into the most inaccessible places, and thus avoiding pursuit, has enabled it to guard against the approach of danger by the great acuteness of its senses of sight, smell, and hearing. It is this which makes it so very difficult to get near them. A rolling stone or a spoken word at once attracts their attention; and they will look and listen to discover whence the sound has come that breaks the silence of their mountain solitude. For an incredibly long time they will then stand gazing fixedly in one direction, quite immovable; and if it happen to be towards something in your neighbourhood that their attention has been attracted, you must lie still and close indeed to escape their observation. The eyes of the whole herd will be fixed on the spot in a long steady stare; and as you anxiously watch them from afar they almost look like fragments of rock, so motionless are they while they gaze. You begin to hope they have found no cause for alarm, when 'Phew!' the sharp

whistle tells they have fathomed the mystery, and away they move to the precipitous rocks overhead: unless panic-stricken, they stop from time to time to look behind; and then suddenly uttering the peculiar shrill sound, again move on.

"It is true that on the mountains, where an awful silence ever broods, the slightest noise breaking the stillness is heard with wonderful distinctness a great way off; but even making allowance for this, there is sufficient evidence that the senses of these animals are particularly acute. If but the gentlest wave be moving in the air, coming from you to them, they at once become aware of your presence, long before you perceive them or they see you.

"In the human being this particular sense is, comparatively speaking, less developed than the others. It is the one which man least needs, not wanting it for his safety, but possessing it solely to minister to his pleasures. When, therefore, we find it extremely acute in another animal, it strikes us more than any example of an unusually sharp sight or an extraordinary power of hearing; just as we are always more astonished at that in another which we are least able to achieve ourselves. A chamois, when dashing down the mountains, will suddenly stop as if struck by a thunderbolt, some yards from the spot where recent human footprints are to be found in the snow, and, turning scared away, rush off immediately in an opposite direction. The taint which the presence of the hunter has left behind is perceived by it long after he has passed.

"The agility of the chamois has become almost proverbial; but to have any idea of what it is, one must be an eye-witness of the bounds they make, and see the places they will race down at full speed when pursued. A smooth surface of rock, so smooth that a footing there seems impossible, and of nearly perpendicular steepness, is no obstacle to their flight. Down they go, now bounding, now gliding, with a velocity which seems to ensure their being inevitably dashed to pieces.

"The chief strength of the animal is in its hind legs, which, if extended, would be longer than the others. On this account it springs upwards with more ease than it descends the mountain, and on level ground its walk is clumsy and ungraceful. It is not made to run, but bounds along over the ground. The hoof is cloven, long and pointed, and the slot of the chamois resembles that of a sheep. The edges are sharp, which causes it to slip easily on the ice, and on this account it rather avoids passing the glaciers. When standing, the hind legs are always bent, as if the animal were preparing to lie down, which no doubt helps considerably to break the fall when leaping from a great height. Notwithstanding this, the croup is still somewhat higher than the fore part of the body. The elastic force which the hind legs possess is immense. With a sudden bound the chamois will leap up against the face of a perpendicular rock, and merely touching it with its hoofs, rebound again in an opposite direction to some higher crag, and thus escape from a spot where, without wings, egress seemed impossible. When reaching upwards on its hind legs, the fore hoofs resting on some higher spot, it is able to stretch to a considerable distance, and with a quick spring will bring up its hind quarters to a level with the rest of the body, and, with all four hoofs close together, stand poised on a point of rock not broader than your hand. On narrow overhanging ledges some thousand feet high they walk and gaze about, enjoying the security from pursuit which such spots afford."

Many tragic tales are told of the fierce hostility between the keepers and the poachers who abound in the mountainous districts. More than once Mr. Boner was a witness of scenes of violence; but the following he reports on the authority of a friend:—

"A friend of mine, young Count D***, who was with Bromberger at the time, has often told me the story. They were out together, looking for chamois: while sitting on the mountain and peering around, they suddenly perceived several men below the ridge, a good distance off, and, like

themselves, watching for game. Their glasses were out in a moment, and one of the band was recognised as a noted poacher of the name of Hofer. At the sight of him the keeper's blood began to flow quicker, for this fellow was known as the most daring in the whole neighbourhood, and the blood of more than one forester was on his head. Solacher had fired at him once, but missed. Bromberger waited to see what they would do. After a time the men rose and came along a path leading to the ridge where the two were sitting. The whole band presently emerged from the hollow, and stood exposed on the summit of the mountain, with Hofer a little in front. Bromberger could not resist the temptation, and determined to have a shot at him; so laying a handkerchief folded together on the rock to serve as a rest for his rifle, he prepared to fire. 'It is a long distance,' he said, turning to his companion, who, with the glass to his eye, was waiting to observe the effect of the shot; 'so I'll aim rather high, and somewhat to the right, to allow for the wind coming up from below. If I take him just between the shoulder and throat, you will see I shall hit in the very centre of his chest!' And a second after the rifle cracked, and down rolled the poacher, with the ball crashing through his shoulder. As you may imagine, the consternation of the others was indescribable. Bromberger and young D*** waited just long enough to see the men carry off their wounded comrade, and then creeping into the latschen, stole away down the mountain, leaving the poachers at a loss to tell whence the shot had come."

We have quoted enough to show the matter and spirit of Mr. Boner's work, which is quite as good in its style as Mr. Scrope's book on the red deer and the forest, while the subject is one which has more of the charm of novelty and of excitement. The illustrations by Horschelt are designed with great spirit, and the lithographs, being beautifully executed, the plates enable the reader more vividly to realise the scenes described. It is right to add that, strange as some of the adventures seem, the author assures us that the volume contains a faithful record of what he has seen and done, "in no one instance being conscious of exaggeration, nor any assertion made which is not truth."

The Maiden's Tower; a Tale of the Sea. By Emilie Flygare-Carlén. 3 vols. Bentley.

STORIES of the sea are generally pleasing to English readers if told with an ordinary amount of spirit and ability. 'The Maiden's Tower' is a tale crowded with stirring incidents, and written in a nautical style of which rural or urban readers of fiction will not perceive the faults. The story is that of a pirate, who had married a lovely and virtuous woman, ignorant of his way of life. She had discovered it, and feigned to hate him. On one expedition a French ship was captured, on board of which as passengers were an old merchant and his two sons, young boys, one of whom was deaf and dumb. The pirate shot one of the boys, and saved the father and the idiot brother. It turns out the other brother was not killed, but recovered from his wound, and his adventures form a chief part of the narrative. The pirate is persuaded by his wife to give up his seafaring life, and to go to live in a distant city, along with their three daughters, and the idiot boy to whom the merchant on dying had appointed him guardian. The characters of the three daughters are well drawn—Thekla, proud and dignified, sacrificing her love from some suspicion of her father's crimes, lest she should bring dishonour on a noble house; Hildur, capricious and wayward, but at last seeing

her folly; and Rosa, the youngest, bright and joyous, and bringing sunshine upon all. In time the lost brother of poor Will, the deaf and dumb boy, appears as captain of a trading ship at Wisby, and falls in love with Rosa. Her father's remorse for his crime has meanwhile become a madness, and he thinks he can only make reparation by compelling Rosa to marry Will, who loved her, instead of this supposed stranger. Rosa at first refuses, but consents on the father threatening that he would give himself up to justice. The story might have gone forward without the suicide of poor Will in the Maiden's Tower, of which a legend is given in the second volume. One passage will show the author's style and manner:—

"Happily the weather was favourable till the vessel reached the Straits of Gibraltar. Here, however, such a heavy gale blew, that the brig, though carrying only her top and top-gallant sails, strained in such a manner as to lead to the belief that she must capsize. Much against his will, Captain Flyborg was compelled to give orders that all sail should be taken in. Albin received the extraordinary command to take his place on the top-gallant yard, and without thought he began to ascend. Bas followed close upon his heels, as Albin grappled the rigging to leeward.

"Hold fast, my boy!" cried the much-interested master, with a loud voice, to his young pupil. 'Do not depend too much on your feet, but trust also to your hands. If your eyes begin to swim, call to me.'

"There is no danger, Bas," cried Albin, who would not be thought less daring than another. But Bas felt very indignant with the Captain, who could send such a boy to a work that was only fit for an experienced sailor.

"At length they reached the yards, and Albin commenced clambering along them. Bas followed close behind.

"Keep your arm fast round the yard, my boy, and hold tight by the rope! Creep gently along the main-yard; but do not try to help,—you have not had practice enough,—I can reef the sail from my side!"

"The labouring vessel, lifted up every moment by the swelling waves, was drawn into the whirl of the wild dance of the ocean. Above in the air, the two boys hovered round the wide circle which her masts described at such a height. A hundred times had Albin been up to the top-mast; he had turned round the flag, and even placed himself on the summit, but then the weather had been calm. Now his head grew dizzy at the motion of the vessel; his senses were confused, and it seemed as if he could with pleasure let go the rope, and drop into the deep below.

"Bas! Bas!—fall!" cried he: and Albin did let the rope go. With his strong hand Bas at that moment seized the collar of the little jacket; but it was too weak for the weight; it remained in his friendly hand, and Albin fell into the water.

"The first thought of our friend Bas was to throw himself down after him; but he instantly remembered the dangerous situation of the ship, and the peril all their lives were in, and must not neglect the orders he had received; but he called out as loud as he could, 'Captain, ahoy! the boy is overboard; he faints.'

"Your own doing," muttered Captain Flyborg to himself, while with the rapid motion of a younger man, he hurried to the Steersman and commanded, 'Let down the life-buoy, and then put the ship about!'

"In a moment he had thrown off his coat, and said to the mate, 'The Steersman has orders to have a rope ready to fish us out,' and jumping upon the taffrail, the next moment he let go the stay by which he had been holding, and disappeared in the foaming element, as the brig, pitching frightfully, turned her head to the wind, and stood up almost perpendicularly.

"Captain Flyborg's belief that the boy had fainted, made the danger greater, and prompted

him to this heroic risk. But the moment Albin was in the water, he recovered his consciousness, and as he soon comprehended his situation, and was a skilful swimmer, he rather assisted the Captain than the Captain him. The *Iduna* fell off; but the life-buoy, with its precious freight, was soon in her wake, and ere a quarter of an hour had passed, the Captain and his young cook stood upon the deck.

"He is up to his business—would wish every captain had the same!" was the only exclamation of old Flyborg, as pointing to the boy, he descended to his cabin.

"In a few minutes Albin was dressed, and very soon, in spite of Bas's remonstrances, he was again upon the main-yard, to reef the sail properly.

"No giddiness seized him this time.

"How is the lad?" was the Captain's first question when he came up.

"There he is," answered the mate, pointing aloft.

"Right—he will be a good sailor."

There is not much originality either in the story or in the characters of the novel, but many of the scenes are cleverly conceived, and described with spirit. There are some errors natural to a foreigner in the chapters in which England is referred to, but the translator very properly leaves them without alteration. Apart from the mere story, the pictures of Swedish and Norwegian life and character form the chief attraction of the work.

The Indian Archipelago, its History and Present State. By Horace St. John, author of 'History of British Conquests in India.' Longman and Co.

It is only now in these late ages of the world that the Indian Archipelago is attracting much notice among the nations of western Europe. Merchants and traders, Portuguese, Spaniards, English, and Dutch, have long carried on commercial intercourse with the people of these Asiatic islands, and the jealousies and rivalries of trade have sometimes involved the home governments in political strife and trouble. Enterprising navigators and learned travellers of various countries have written admirable works on the Archipelago. But so far as popular information and general interest extend, we doubt whether English readers on the whole know or care more about the Indian Isles than when two centuries ago Milton wrote—

"Of Ternate and Tidore, whence merchants bring Their spicy drugs."

The enterprise of Sir James Brooke has at length recalled new attention to the islands of the Indian Ocean. Fresh impulse has also been given to English commerce by the intercourse between Singapore and the lands of the Southern Pacific. The Dutch will not now be able almost to monopolize the trade of these seas. The suppression of the daring piracy which has so long checked the commerce of the Archipelago has been commenced with an energy worthy of the naval power of Great Britain. The advances of the Americans in the politics of the East, and, above all, the increase of general international intercourse through the spread of steam navigation, are among the causes which must secure for the Indian Archipelago a greater share of public notice than it has hitherto obtained in England. Mr. St. John's work supplies the information, both as to the history and condition of the islands, which the general reader would most desire to possess. With great industry and judicious labour he has condensed into a well-arranged summary the facts scattered through the volumes of

Dampier, Earl, Forrest, Crawford, Raffles, Marsden, Temminck, Faria y Souza, Low, Belcher, and a number of other authors, whose works are cited with scrupulous fidelity. Indeed, the care with which Mr. St. John quotes his authorities for statements not of great importance, is carried to an almost needless extreme. Thus there are scarcely two pages together without some references at the foot of the page, often to the number of ten or twelve, as in the following passage, which we give as a specimen of the manner in which the book has been compiled:—

"The character of the Javanese can scarcely be drawn with exactitude, since accounts of them are so various. From a comparison of various views, we may nevertheless estimate it, with an approach to fidelity. They appear to be an acute, ingenious people, susceptible of a fine polish, fond of the elegant arts, addicted to gay pleasures, yet sober (Stavorinus, 'Voyages,' 743), credulous, vain, and reverential to authority (Raffles, 'History of Java,' i. 272). They are bound to their traditions, but easily led where these are not concerned (Temminck, 'Coup d'Œil sur les Possessions Néerlandaises,' i. 290). Many accounts agree in representing them as a faithless race, observing a treaty only until they enjoy an opportunity to break it (Home, 'Sketches of Man'). Their vanity, vindictiveness (Crawford, 'History of Indian Archipelago,' i. 65), and treachery, were noticed by early writers (Barros, 'Decades of Asia'), and to lie was reported honourable among them (Heylyn, 'Cosmography,' 920), though these arts were usually employed against strangers. But this is denied (Crawford, 'History of Indian Archipelago,' i. 72). The character of the humbler is superior to that of the higher orders, corrupted by congregation in cities, the influence of native courts (Raffles, 'History of Java,' i. 282), and, formerly, by the example of the Dutch (Tavernier, iii. 358). While there is a conflict of opinions with respect to their feelings towards women, it being said, on the one hand, that they are distinguished by an apathy natural to their constitution (Crawford, 'History of Indian Archipelago,' i. 42); and, on the other, that they are fiercely jealous and inflammable (Raffles, 'History of Java,' i. 278), it is certain large classes of them are to the last degree immoral. Their code of ethics is indeed good, but their practice is the reverse. (For the notices of the old travellers see Nieuhoff, 315, 319; Linschotten, 20; Le Brun, ii. 197.)"

The number of references affixed as authorities for the statements of so short a portion of the text shows at a glance the extent of the author's researches, and the accuracy of the information contained in his book. The voluminous and well-arranged tables of contents and index also display at once the variety and extent of subjects of which he treats. A few extracts will suffice to indicate the tenor and tone of Mr. St. John's work, which deserves to be popular as much from the spirit in which it is written as from the information which it contains. The regions included under the general name of the Indian Archipelago are thus defined and described:—

"No other collection of groups in the world is equal in extent to the Indian Archipelago. A length including forty degrees of longitude close to the line, from the western point of Sumatra to the parallel of the Arru isles, with a breadth of thirty, from the Sandelwood to Luzon, comprehends an area of five millions and a half of square statute, or four millions and a half of geographical miles. Around it are spread, as about a centre, the most famous and civilised nations of Asia, who make it their highway of maritime traffic. On the east, China lies within three days' sail; on the west, three weeks will carry a ship to the ports of the Red Sea; the monsoon brings a vessel in fifteen days from Hindustan; Europe may be reached in ninety, and Western America in fifty days. Steam

has contracted these distances, and brought the races of the Archipelago within easier reach of the Old and the New World.

"The Archipelago, if we do not include New Guinea within its limits, contains two islands, Borneo and Sumatra, of the first class, inferior in size only to Australia; one of the second, Java, with the Malay Peninsula, of equal extent; three of the third—Celebes, Luzon, and Mindanao, each as large as the most considerable of the West India group; and of the fourth, at least sixteen,—Bali, Lombok, Sumbawa, Chandana, Flores or Mangarai, Timor, Ceram, Bouru, Gilolo, Palawan, Negros, Samar, Mindoro, Panay, Leyte, and Zebu—most of them with spacious alluvial tracts, navigable rivers, and many natural riches. The groups and chains in which they are distributed are dispersed over narrow seas with the greater islands intervening. Innumerable channels and passages, therefore, open in every direction to the mariner,—tortuous, intricate, full of rocks, reefs, and shoals, which render them in some parts difficult of navigation. They are made less dangerous, however, by the prevailing serenity of the waters, the regularity of the currents, and the steadiness of the winds. Tremendous storms, indeed, occasionally visit the Straits of Malacca, or rage over the China Sea; but they are rare, and the islands of the interior region may be said to lie amid perpetual calm.

"There are five different seas recognised by European geography within the limits of the Indian Archipelago; the wide expanse between Borneo and the Malay Peninsula; another between Borneo and Java, called the Java Sea; another between Celebes and Timor; the Sea of Celebes between that island, Sulu and Mindanao; and the fifth, a basin of considerable extent between the Philippines, Palawan and Borneo. Around all these flow, on the west, the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean; on the south the Australian waters, and on the north the China Sea, while eastward spreads the wilderness of the Pacific, still imperfectly explored. From the west there are, through the long island wall formed by Sumatra and Java, only two approaches—the Straits of Sunda and Malacca; along the southern boundary is extended a line 1600 miles in length from Java to Timorlaut, with outlets into the Pacific, numerous but narrow. On the east, broad passages are open, and, northward, unsafe and intricate channels lead between the Philippines, Palawan, and Borneo, with three others more commodious and secure, formed by the small islands of Biliton and Banca, in the sea between Borneo and Sumatra. All over the surface are scattered an infinite number of little groups, increasing the intricacy of the navigation, and generally separated from the larger islands by straits of insignificant depth.

"The whole Archipelago lies under a tropical sky. It is divided nearly in the centre by the equinoctial line, and, excepting the Philippines, almost the whole is situated within 10° of that imaginary girdle of the earth. It is, indeed, the only part of Asia seated upon or close to it. A general uniformity, therefore, in climate, in productions, and races of people, prevails; yet there are characteristic differences which authorised an able geographer to distribute the whole into five divisions. Excluding the savage tribes, the remnant of another race, the general resemblance of all the islanders may indeed uphold the theory of their common descent with the Tartars and Chinese; but the accidents of history, of climate, situation, and intercourse with the different nations, have modified them into peculiar habits, manners, language, laws, and forms of civilisation. The first group comprehends the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java, Bali, Lombok, and two thirds of Borneo, as far as the parallel of 116° east longitude: all these have a higher class of productions, a superior soil, inhabitants more polished, educated to letters, arts and arms, and feeding generally on rice, which is produced abundantly for their supply.

"In the second division, Celebes occupies the centre of a group including Bouton and Saleyer, the whole chain from 116° east longitude to 124°

and all of Borneo within that limit, up to 3° of north latitude. Its animals and vegetables assimilate in character; the land is inferior, and less suited to the culture of grain; the people have advanced to some extent in useful arts, have a peculiar and uniform system of language, manners, and institutions, feed on rice, which is more sparingly yielded to their use, and occasionally content themselves with sago.

"The third division is remarkably distinct, extending from longitude 124° to 130° E., and latitude 10° S. to 2° N. Here the monsoons change their character. The eastern, which towards Bengal is dry and temperate, is here boisterous and rainy; the western, which in the first two divisions is violent and wet, is here mild and dry. Its plants and animals also for the most part disappear, to be replaced by peculiar productions,—the nutmeg and the clove,—while the soil favours little the cultivation of rice; and the people feed chiefly on sago.

"The fourth division is less distinct, extending from 116° to 128° E., and from latitude 4° to 10° N., and including the north-east angle of Borneo, Mindanao, and the group of Sulu. It produces nutmegs and cloves, but of inferior quality; some rice and large quantities of sago, while the people with peculiar language, customs, and institutions, hold a place between the first and second and the third classes of the insular population. They are little addicted to honourable industry, and have always been notorious as promoters of the piratical system.

"The fifth group is the Philippines, excluded by some from their considerations of the Archipelago. They are the only islands in those waters which are habitually visited by hurricanes. Their soil is fertile; producing tobacco, sugar, and excellent rice, but no pepper, no fine spices, and none of those exquisite fruits which in Sumatra load the groves, in a perfection of beauty and flavour."

This extract, although of considerable length, will be acceptable from the numerous facts condensed into the space. When the author comes to detailed accounts of the several islands there are some gorgeous descriptions; but so much sameness of beauty is reported that one account serves almost exactly for a hundred other of these happy islands. From a Dutch captain, Ver Huell, an ancestor probably of the admiral of the French empire, a sketch of Amboyna is given, the terms of which are equally applicable to many other islands of these seas—*ex uno disce omnes*:—

"There is one famous sketch of such a landscape from the pen of a traveller who, with his pencil, has justified the florid colours of his description. They are of ravishing beauty, we are told by this enthusiastic voyager. You may wander over plains, surrounded by the slopes of verdant hills, divided by sweeps of grass-land or natural pastures sprinkled thickly with flowers, effusing a powerful fragrance, that hangs in the air, too heavy to be dissipated. Amid an infinite profusion of blossoming plants are distinguished, by their lustre and grace, the *Hibiscus Rosa sinensis*, adorned with elevated clusters of berries and bright purple petals, another with tapering coronal of crimson flowers, others with blossoms of a delicate green, flourishing in the form of trees, whose branches, gently bending towards the sun, afford an unbragous dome of foliage. The traveller indulges in a rapturous apostrophe to the spirit of pleasure: How delicious to enjoy a moment of repose on the border of the River of Elephants, where, under the influence of a genial sky, perpetually serene, shaded by lofty trees, and listening to the trembling leaves of the palm, a Sybarite might rest and watch the clusters of tufted branches gracefully swaying in the wind! Every sense may feed on the beauty of the scene,—the eye on the landscape, the ear on the harmony of nature, while perfumes float around from the orange groves, from the Sandal Malam, or Lover of the Night, and from an infinite variety of aro-

matic trees and shrubs, which enrich this favoured island. All that poetry can imagine is realized here; the ideal is exceeded, and the traveller may believe himself transported to the gardens of Armida in the Tempean Vale."

The name of Amboyna is darkly associated in history with the famous massacre and other scenes of violence, of which, as well as of all the great political events that have happened in the Archipelago, full accounts are given in Mr. St. John's narrative. Of Albuquerque, Galvan, and other viceregal rulers of these eastern regions, the stories have the interest of the highest romance; but we pass on to notice the period when the English began to take part in the affairs of the Archipelago, in the records of which the name of Sir Stamford Raffles stands conspicuous. He was appointed by Lord Minto Lieutenant-Governor of Java:—

"The name of Raffles is indissolubly associated with that, as the name of Brooke is with a later, period in the history of the Indian Archipelago. There are points of resemblance between the men. Their wide, liberal views, their philanthropic spirit, their hatred of the system which wrung profit from the misery of the natives, their endeavours to suppress piracy, their exalted ideas of the mission which civilisation has, surely, to accomplish in those distant regions of the East; in these particulars there is a link between Sir Stamford Raffles and Sir James Brooke, whose memories will be bequeathed together with honour to the latest posterity.

"Raffles was born at sea, near Jamaica, on the 5th of July, 1781. From his infancy he was accustomed to an adventurer's life. His father, Benjamin Raffles, was one of the oldest captains in the trade of those seas, out of the port of London. Placed at an early age at a school in Hammer-smith, he quickly developed the characteristics of thoughtfulness and close application which were among his distinctions; and though his education was not complete or fine, he acquired much knowledge during the brief opportunity he enjoyed. At fourteen he was placed as an extra clerk in the East India House. Thus drawn from the form and scholar's desk, he did not abandon learning. His leisure hours were never idle. Principles of a strong, elevated character, directed his conduct. He was conscious of the talents which graced him. He appreciated himself with an honest candour, but still with modesty.

"Those abilities were speedily acknowledged by the Indian government; and when, in 1805, the Court of Directors resolved on consolidating the establishment at Pinang, Raffles was named assistant secretary. Towards the close of that year, he arrived in the Indian Archipelago. His capacity and application, his tact and judgment, attracted notice. He rose through various grades of office, and at all times was eager in the collection of knowledge with respect to the region which fortune had opened as the field of his exertions. He mingled at Pinang with the crowds of temporary or permanent settlers from various countries of the further East—from Java and the Moluccas, from Celebes and Borneo, from Papua, Cochin China, and the Celestial Empire. With these he conversed, discovering their habits of thought, the tone of their sympathies, and their commercial tastes, thus acquiring that acquaintance with them by which alone an European can open the way which leads to the respect, the confidence, or the love of a barbarian race. Raffles had a purpose in view, and, bringing to his aid the kindest qualities of the human heart, as well as a vigorous intellectual mind, his success was in most instances more than answerable to his hopes, if short of his desires.

"The task allotted to him was arduous and responsible. Six millions of men, divided into thirty residencies, with powerful chiefs chafing under European rule, fell under his charge. An extensive island, the most fertile and beautiful in the

world, was to be reclaimed from desolation. Its population was to be conciliated to friendship with governors of the white race they had learned to fear, if not to hate. Before the conquest by the English, the Dutch had only actually subjugated one of the four principal kingdoms. The inferior kingdom of Jakatra, extending from Bantam to Cheribon, and containing Batavia, alone acknowledged with implicit obedience the name of Holland. The Dutch, indeed, had been long lords paramount of Java; but their sword was never in its sheath, and when new rulers arrived it remained for them to prove their conquest by the same weapons. Lord Minto remained in Java six weeks, arranging places of government, and for the suppression of piracy. The proposal was made to him to plunder and abandon Java, but it was rejected, and the island received as a province of the British Indian empire. He left Raffles abundant opportunities to exercise the courage and judgment which were his distinguishing characteristics.

"Taking advantage of the overthrow of the French and Dutch dominion, the ex-sultan of Java seized the throne which had been wrested from him, and put his vizier and his vizier's father to death for opposing his will. His turbulent spirit displaying itself in a threatening form, Raffles resolved to visit his capital and conclude a settlement of the relations to exist between the British government and this barbarian prince, who had long since yielded his independence to Holland. A convention was at length agreed upon. The sultan acknowledged the English supreme in Java, recognised their succession to the rights of the Dutch, ceded them the regulation of duties and the collection of tribute in his territories, with the administration of justice in all cases where British interests were concerned, and, pledging himself to the fulfilment of these engagements, expressed deep regret for all that had passed. Nevertheless, he sought to expel our countrymen from the island, and it was found necessary to send an expedition to reduce him to reason.

"The conduct of Stamford Raffles, in this and in other measures, was almost universally approved. General Gillespie, indeed, impeached it, and put him to a severe trial, but, though his motives were undoubtedly pure, his charges could not be sustained, and the widow of Raffles, in chronicling these transactions, expresses her belief that if this gallant soldier had not met an early and honourable death, he would himself have borne a generous testimony to the man with whom he had formerly co-operated, but whose policy he conscientiously blamed. Other opponents, indeed, stood up occasionally to charge ill to the account of Raffles—some openly accusing him, others throwing arrows in the dark; but he was able to convince his honest, and to confound his malignant antagonists."

In much the same spirit as is shown in this passage does Mr. St. John take up the case of Sir James Brooke, to whose history the latter part of his second volume is chiefly devoted. Of his administration a full account is given, and the general results are thus briefly stated:—

"In Sarawak, however, a gratifying spectacle is exhibited,—a salutary picture full of hope for the uncultured race still ranging in savage liberty through the woods and morasses which extend over so large a part of the island. There, Sir James Brooke has performed an achievement which scarcely a man in any other part of the world has ever equalled, or even attempted to imitate. It is an unrivalled triumph. A wretched, impoverished, disorganised collection of tribes, bloodthirsty and uncouth, inhabiting a wild, uncultivated, unprotected province, has been moulded into a peaceful, happy, flourishing society, with manners, morals, laws, a pride in industry, and an attachment to trade. There is little or no crime, litigation is unfrequent, and the Dyaks have perfect confidence in their ruler. Among other benefits he has conferred on them is a hospital, superintended by the kindness and skill of the Reverend

Mr. Macdougall, whose apostolic piety and zeal will not soon be forgotten in Sarawak.

"When Sir James Brooke assumed the administration of this province, he found materials, the least encouraging to a superficial view—rapine, piracy, oppression operating from the powerful to the inferior classes; the bonds of society dissolved among the inferior classes themselves; all ancient laws defied, yet not forgotten, so that there was no clear ground for the introduction of new ones. A sudden and systematic abrogation of every social rule would have left an easier task than this decay of institutions which the prejudice of the people would not permit him to destroy. There were certain laws, certain customs, certain traditional forms of procedure deeply established, and by no means to be removed; but there was also a high-minded, liberal population, willing to be educated to the nobler practices of life. The Dyaks went to Sir James Brooke, and while he, in one sense, was their protector, they in another were his. They carried arms. He told them they had rights, and the defence of those rights was to be accomplished by arms. The rudiments of equity were then established, when there followed an appeal to constituted tribunals for the settlement of causes or the punishment of crime. The forms of justice in Sarawak are perhaps more simple than in any other part in the world. Sir James and his companions meet. Every person of respectability, whether English or native, sits down at a circular table; the prisoner is seated on a mat; the trial commences in the Malay language; every one is allowed to speak in his turn; evidence on both sides is patiently heard, and the decision is given and recorded on the spot. The Dyaks take the most earnest interest in all proceedings of this kind; their minds, we are assured by Sir J. Brooke, are equal to the comprehension of them, and though uncultivated, are not inferior in capacity to those of Europeans.

"It is not to be imagined that the Rajah Brooke is an absolute autocrat in his Bornean dominions. He is rather the president of a republican state—the executive of a self-governing people, but at the same time the director and master-spirit of the whole. When he desires to alter an institution, they sometimes object, pleading their attachment to an ancient custom, and the question is debated. If he wishes to modify a law as too cruel, or too lenient, or inefficacious, he calls the people together in an open court, and explains to them his reasons. He then desires the chiefs to assemble the tribes in their different towns throughout the province, to consult upon points of legislation, and transmit their determination to him. The enquiry, in effect, is made, 'Is it your wish that such shall be the law, by which you yourselves are to be governed?' and their choice is his decision."

Towards the close of the work an account is given, drawn up from the most recent official documents, of the actual state of these seas, especially with regard to the piracy which is their chief bane and danger. The facts here mentioned show how much the vigorous action of English ships is still required, not only for the protection of our own commerce, but for the general interests of humanity:—

"Piracy is gradually dying out along the north-west coast of Borneo; but neither this, nor any other part of the Archipelago, can be flourishing or secure until the European governments have extirpated that system, which still rages with destructive activity over those seas. It is no exaggeration to assert that not a week passes without the journals of Singapore recording some act of atrocity committed by marauders on the peaceful traders or villagers of the islands.

"Captain Bates was, in September 1851, chased in his gig along the coast of Palawan by five pirate prahus, and escaped only with the utmost difficulty; thirty-five men, with two prahus, were carried off about the same time by the Balanini from Mintagal, within sixty miles of Labuan; the Rajah of Mandhar, in Celebes, was early in the year captured by

Lanuns; fleets of these rovers were, in October, seen haunting the Karimata passage; the Dutch island of Bawean was, in 1850, attacked by pirates under two Bugis chiefs, who were not easily beaten off; and a trader from Kailli, in October 1851, was assailed by eight buccaneering prahus under the command of a female. The pirates of Tungku have recently scoured the Straits of Makassar in great force, committing many outrages, and sending a few small boats occasionally to haunt the north-west coast of Borneo. These were the wretches who committed the murder of Mr. Burns, and the plunder of the *Dolphin*, and who succeeded in eluding the boats of the *Pluto*, *Semiramis*, and *Cleopatra*, under Mr. Spenser St. John, the Acting Commissioner, and Captain Massie, in February 1852.

"The extent to which the trade of Singapore is injured by these piracies is not easily to be conceived. We now hear of a prahu bound for Kam-pot in Cambodia, to the British settlements, with a cargo of silk and ivory, captured on the voyage; of sea-ports, towns, and villages on the east coast of the Peninsula destroyed by freebooters; of boats captured off Rhio, some of their crew killed, and women stripped naked and left on an uninhabited shore; of forty prahus at a time scouring the Straits of Malacca—in a word, of outrages committed in every direction, native traders confined to their ports by fear and terror still reigning along the coasts of many of the islands. Some of their pirate haunts have hitherto been proved impregnable; but the British government cannot honourably relax from vigorous exertions until the system is destroyed altogether."

The report of the present state of Singapore is highly encouraging, and the establishment of its English journal, 'The Free Press,' is not the least agreeable feature in the description. No one can read Mr. St. John's book without anxiously desiring that British power, with its accompanying Christianizing and civilizing influences, may be soon and largely extended throughout the Indian Archipelago.

Sam Slick's Wise Saws and Modern Instances; or, What he Said, Did, or Invented. 2 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

JUDGE HALIBURTON is probably as wise and witty, as shrewd and sarcastic, as when his first appearance as Sam Slick surprised and amused English readers. But we confess we are tired of a style, the novelty of which no longer covers a multitude of faults. This must always be the case where a writer is distinguished more by the peculiarity of his manner than the importance of his matter. Where mannerism is the only claim to notice, a book meets with the same contempt which affected singularity of dress or manner would bring in society on an empty person who might seek thereby to attract notice. Where there is learning and genius some allowance is made for singularity of manner, though even this is not tolerable everywhere and at all times. It is the same with books. The eccentricity and peculiarity of such writers as Carlyle or Haliburton are borne with, on account of the solid worth of their books, just as the motley dress and rough buffoonery of court jesters used to be tolerated for their ready wit and sagacious counsel. We have a dislike for this perpetual flow of singularity and slang; but as some may not feel the same aversion, we waive further comments on the style of Sam Slick, and proceed to give a few specimens of the racy matter composing his 'Wise Saws and Modern Instances.' A word first about Sam Slick, as told by himself in the introductory letter to the Squire:—

"Since I parted with you I have led a sort of wanderin', ramblin' life, browsin' here to-day, and there to-morrow, amusin' myself arter my old way, studyin' human natur', gettin' a wrinkle on the horn myself for some that I give others, and doin' a little bit of business by the way to pay charges, and cover the ribs of my bank book; not to say that I need it much either, for habit has more to do with business now with me than necessity. The bread of idleness in a general way is apt to be stale, and sometimes I consait it is a little grain sour."

"Latterly I have been pretty much to Slickville, having bought the old humstead from father's heirs, and added to it considerable in buildin's and land, and begin to think sometimes of marryin'. The fact is, it aint easy to settle down arter itineratin' all over the world so many years as I have done without a petticoat critter of one's own for company; but before I ventur' on that partnership consarn I must make another tour in the provinces, for atween you and me, I reckon they raise handsomer and stronger ladies than we do in Connecticut, although we do crack for everlastin' about beatin' all the world in our 'geese, galls, and onions.'"

"Facts are stranger than fiction, for things happen sometimes that never entered into the mind of man to imagine or invent. You know what my position was as *attaché* to our embassy at the court of St. James Victoria, and that I was *chargé* when ambassador went to Oxford and made that splendid speech to the old dons, to advise them to turn Unitarians, and made a tour of the country and spoke like a ten-horse steam-engine on agriculture, at the protection dinners; and it was ginnerally allowed that his was the best oration on the subject ever heard, tho' it's well known to home he couldn't tell a field of oats from a field of peas, nor mangels from turnips, if he was to be stoned to death with the old Greek books at the college, and buried under the entire heap of rubbish. And you know that I was head of the Legation also, when he was absent in France a-sowin' some republican seed, which don't seem to suit that climate."

"I told him afore he went, that our great nation was the only place in the world where it would ripen and bear fruit."

Pretty hard hits, not without easily recognised personalities, are dealt to the Americans all through the work; but we take an extract from a dissertation on a more inoffensive and entertaining subject—the language of animals. After a long talk with the ship captain about mackerel, and the secret of catching them, the dialogue proceeds:—

"There is nothin' easier in natur'. Get into a diver's suit, be let down gently in among the mackerel, and larn their lingo; and then you can call them, and they'll follow you like dogs. I soon picked it up: it's very easy."

"What! fish talk?" says he. "Come, I aint quite so green. Who ever heard the like o' that, as fish talkin'?"

"Aye, my man," says I, "and larfin' too. Did you ever see a ripplin' on the water like air-bubbles, when a shoal of fish rises?"

"Often," says he. "The water bubbles up like beer in a tumbler."

"Well," says I, "that's the fish a larfin' at some odd old fellow's story. I never would have thought it possible they were such a merry set, if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, and the fondest of a joke you ever see. They are a takin' a rise out of some young goney now, depend upon it, judgin' by the bubbles there is on the water. Oncet when I was down among them, they sent a youngster off to invite a cod to come and sup with them. As soon as the old fellow saw him, out he goes to meet him, gallows polite, and swallows him down like wink. Creation! how the whole shoal larked at the way the goney was sold."

"Well, well!" says he, "that beats all, that's a fact. Fish talkin'! Is it possible?"

"Don't you know that crows talk?" says I.

"Well," says he, "I do. I've seen that myself."

Many a long day I've laid down in our pasture, a-stretched out at full-length, a watchin' the vessels pass, and obsarvin' the action of the crows."

"Hard work that, warn't it?" says I.

"Well," says he, "if you was made to do it, I suppose it would be; but I liked it, and what you like ain't hard. I'll just help myself to a little more of that cordial, for I like it too. Well, I have heard the crows talk to each other, and seen them plant sentries out when they seed me a watchin' of them, and once I actilly saw them hold a court-martial. The old veterans came from all the ports about here, and from all the islands, and bluffs and shores, up and down; and the culprit hung his head down, and looked foolish enough, you may depend. What he had done, I don't know. Whether he had run off with another crow's wife, or stole a piece of meat, or went to sleep when he was on guard, or what, I don't know, but arter consultin' together, they turned to and fell on him, and killed him, and then adjourned the court and dispersed; that's a natural fact. And now we are on the subject," said he, "I'll tell you another thing I once seed. There were some seals used to come ashore last summer at my place, sometimes singly, and sometimes in pairs. Well, at that time I was out of powder; and I don't know how it is with you, Captin', but it seems to me when I get out of things, that's the very identical time I wants 'em most. Well, the store is a matter of two miles off, and I was waitin' for some of my neighbours to be a goin' that way to send for some, so I had an opportunity to watch them several days, and its a nactual fact, I'm going to tell you. Them and the gulls kind of knocked up an acquaintance considerable intimate. Well, at last the powder came, and I loaded my gun and sneaked along on all-fours to get a shot at a fellow that was dozin' there; and just as I got to about the correct distance, what do you think? a cussed gull that was a watchin' of me, guessed what I was about, and off to the seal like wink, and gave such a scream in the critter's ear, as he sailed over him, that he jumped right up with fright, and goes ker-wallop head over ears into the water in no time; that's a nactual fact."

"Why, in course," says I; "there's a voice in all natur'. Everythin' talks from a woman down to a crow, and from a crow to a mackerel. I believe your story of the crows."

"I'll swear to it," says he.

"You needn't swear to it," says I; "I believe it, and besides I never swear to any o' my stories; it makes swearin' too cheap."

"Well," says he, "seein' that crows talk, I believe that story of the fish too; it must be so, else how could they all keep together? but I must say it's the strangest story I ever heard since I was born, and opened my ears and heard. It does sound odd, but I believe it."

"Well then take another drop of that cordial, for you might feel cold."

"Oh, no!" said he, "I don't feel cold a bit."

"But you might by and bye," said I; but the critter didn't see what I was at.

"Come let's go on deck," says I; "and John Brown," says I, "bring up the divin' dress. Jim Lynch, fetch the leads, and fasten them on to this gentleman's feet; and do you hear there, Noah Coffin, reave an inch-rope though the eye of the studden sail-boom—be quick—bear a hand there; we are just on the right spot."

"For what?" said Blue-nose.

"For puttin' you into the divin' dress and thrown you overboard to larn your first lesson, in mackerel language."

"Why, Captin'," says he, a-edjin' off slowly, and his eyes glazen, like a wild cat that's a-facin' of the dogs; "why, Captin', you aint agoin' to force me whether I will or no."

"That's the bargain," says I. "Bear a hand, boys, and see if you aint overboard in no time."

"I took one step forward, as if about to catch him, when he put a hand on the taffrail, sprang into his boat, and pushed off in a minute, and rowed ashore like mad."

The scene of Mr. Slick's flirtation with a

pretty American girl will shock orthodox readers in the States:—

"What flirts all you men are," said she. "But oh, my sakes! I aint that tree lovely! just one mass of flowers. Hold me up, please, Mr. Slick, till I get a branch off of that apple-tree. Oh dear! how sweet it smells."

"Well I took her in my arms and lifted her up, but she was a long time a choosin' of a wreath, and that one she put round my hat, and then she gathered some sprigs for a nosegay."

"Don't hold me so high, please. There smell that, aint it beautiful? I hope I aint a showin' of my ankles."

"Lucy, how my heart beats," said I, and it did too, it thundered like a sledge-hammer: I actilly thought it would have tore my waistcoat buttons off. "Don't you hear it go bump, bump, bump, Lucy? I wonder if it ever busts like a biler; for holdin' such a gall as you be, Lucy, in one's arms aint safe, it is as much as one's—"

"Don't be silly," said she, larfin', 'or I'll get right down this minit. No," she said, "I dont hear it beat; I don't believe you've got any heart at all."

"There," said I, bringin' her a little farther forward, "don't you hear it now? Listen."

"No," said she, 'it's nothin' but your watch tickin', and she larfed like anythin'; 'I thought so."

"You haven't got no heart at all, have you?" said I.

"It never has been tried yet," said she. 'I hardly know whether I have one or not."

"Oh! then you don't know whether it is in the right place or not."

"Yes it is," said she, a pullin' of my whiskers; 'yes it is just in the right place, just where it ought to be,' and she put my hand on it; 'where else would you have it, dear, but where it is? But, hush!' said she; 'I saw Eunice Snare just now; she is a comin' round the turn there. Set me down quick, please. Aint it provokin' that gall fairly harnts me. I hope she didn't see me in your arms."

"I'll lift her up to the tree too," said I, 'if you like; and then—"

"Oh no!" said she, 'it aint worth while. I don't care what she says or thinks one snap of my finger,' and advancin' rapidly, held out the nosegay, and presented it to the Captin."

The following passage about the importance of good feeling being maintained between England and America will be echoed by many hearts in both countries:—

"I have studied both nations, and love them both; and after addin' all that is to be counted on one side, and subtractin' all that is to be deducted on the other, I aint candidly and fairly satisfied which is the greatest of the two nations. But, on the whole, I think we are, take it altogether. The sum may be stated in this way: England is great in wealth, in population, in larnin', in energy, in manufactories, and in her possessions; but then her weakness is in her size. I knew a man onct who was so tall he didn't know when his feet was cold, they were so far off from his heart. That is the case with England and her distant colonies. She don't know the state of feelin' there, and sore spots are allowed to mortify until amputation is necessary. Giants aint formidable folks in a general way. Their joints are loose, their bodies are too heavy, their motions unwieldy—they knock their heads agin doors, and can't stow away their legs in coaches or under tables, their backs aint fit for daily work, and light-built fellers can dance round them, and insult them, without danger of bein' caught."

"Now foreign possessions, like full-grown children, are expensive. In time of peace, colonies help trade; but in time of war, how are they to be defended? *There must be incorporation or separation—united you stand, divided you fall.* Now we have our country, as father used to say of his farm, all in a ring-fence. Every climate at home. We raise the northern pine and the southern sugar-

cane, the potato and the pine-apple, the grape and the winter fruit, bear-skins and cotton. We have two oceans, and the coast on each is easily defended. Rivers, lakes, canals, railways, and telegraphs intersect and connect the whole. We can supply ourselves with everythin' we want—we have a world of our own. John Bull himself wouldn't deny this. If we aint greater than England, we are as great; if we don't grow faster, we grow as fast. We have nothin' to envy, and Englishmen are on too good terms with themselves to envy any one. Our duty and our interest is to unite as one, and humanize, Christianize, and civilize the whole world."

With occasional caricatures, there is no question as to the general faithfulness of the Transatlantic sketches of Sam Slick. This work contains many comic and humorous traits of character, and also pictures of social and political life of graver import than might be expected from the trivial mode of writing. The satire is sometimes severe, but dealt in so amusing a way that even those who are taken off must laugh at the representation. No writer has ever held up the mirror so faithfully to Yankee nature. But it is for the entertainment of English readers that Judge Haliburton chiefly writes; and those who do not know the better points of American character may at least learn from his works some of the less estimable traits of their Transatlantic cousins.

Memorials of Early Christianity. By James G. Miall, M.P. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

THIS is by far the best of Mr. Miall's books, or at least that which from its subject is most likely to be widely popular. In the compass of a small volume he has presented an admirable summary of the ecclesiastical history of the first three centuries, down to the establishment of Christianity by Constantine the Great. All the most important facts connected with the external affairs of the early churches are narrated, and in regard to subjects on which there is room for diversity of opinion, while the author does not refrain from stating his own sentiments both as to religious truth and ecclesiastical polity, this is never done in a sectarian spirit, nor in the style of a polemical treatise. To many Protestants, indeed, Mr. Miall may seem to be too liberal in certain of his statements. For instance, he says that "the fact that Peter resided in Rome is derived from sources most authentic." Yet he immediately mentions that "the first statement of the place of his martyrdom is made by Dionysius at the close of the second century." In aiming at impartiality and candour, Mr. Miall has on various other points evidently suppressed the utterance of his own beliefs and feelings. The book is not on this account the less calculated to be useful, for it is written in a spirit that Protestants of every denomination will approve. Of the style of the work two extracts will suffice to enable a judgment to be formed, the first being part of the description of the great fire of Rome in Nero's time:—

"About the year sixty, Nero had developed the full features of his hideous character. The absolutism of the Roman emperors, which left their subjects no resource except that of ridding themselves of their tyrants, was usually the hot-bed of crimes. Nero threw off shame, and he had at no time virtue. His brother and his wife perished at his word. Burrhus was no more, either in consequence of death or treachery; and Seneca retired in disgust from court. The Emperor gave full scope to his career of impurity, profligacy, cruelty, and buffoonery."

"At this time, when Nero was exhausting the imperial treasures by his incredible vices, a great conflagration took place in Rome, which destroyed so considerable a part of the city, as that only three divisions out of fourteen remained entire. Tacitus hesitates to assert that this event took place by order of the Emperor. But Suetonius is much more unscrupulous, and does not hesitate to affix on him the crime of the transaction, declaring that Nero's pretext was, that he might remove the narrow and winding streets for which, since the burning of Rome by the Gauls, the old city had been remarkable. The fire began in that part of the Circus which was contiguous to the Palatine and Coelian Hills, where the fire readily seized the inflammable materials sold in the booths of the merchants, sparing neither state edifices nor the temples; and at last it spread over those portions of the city which were crowded by the multitude, carrying desolation and destruction in its way. During six days the conflagration raged with the utmost fury, bidding defiance to all efforts to check it, and driving the miserable and helpless people into the fields for shelter. Suspicious fixed themselves on the Emperor as the cause of this terrible calamity. It was reported that when one had repeated before him the line—"When I am dead let the earth be destroyed by fire," he had said—"Yes, indeed; but let it be whilst I am living." It was declared also that he had been seen during the progress of the flames on the summit of his palace, dressed in the theatrical costumes of which he was so inordinately fond, and singing a song commemorative of the destruction of Troy; and it is certain that he afterwards appropriated a large portion of the ruined city, to the injury of thousands, as the site of a palace called the Golden palace, which he had long greatly desired to build. Such is the price which a nation may pay for absolute and arbitrary power! To evade the popular fury which his combined acts of reckless tyranny ending with this last scene had drawn upon him, Nero endeavoured to fix the odium of the burning of the city on the Christians, already sufficiently detested. Dean Milman is of opinion that the early believers, supposing the conflagration to be one of the indications of the coming of Christ to judge the world and to avenge himself of his enemies, expressed themselves regarding the event in such a manner as to expose themselves to this popular suspicion. But the supposition, though ingenious, appears to have no solid grounds."

From the concluding reflections at the close of the volume, the following sentences show in what manner the author uses the facts of history for the illustration of modern controversy, and the confirmation of pure and primitive Christian truth:—

"He who would have religion pure must drink from the fountain alone. The Christianity of the fourth, even of the third century, was already a corrupted stream. If the argument from antiquity have any value, it is when it aids us to appeal from the ancient Church of Tertullian's or Cyprian's days to a still earlier period—to that of the disciples and apostles of the Lord themselves. We need not go to the post-Nicene Church for rubrics and relics; for reverence to martyrs and the *opu operatum* of sacerdotal assumptions. Before that time the 'fine gold had become dim.' The corruption of the Church is not alone due to the Papacy. 'Perilous times' had dawned upon it before the bishop of Rome claimed a universal spiritual authority over its affairs."

"This last fact is of great importance, and it has not always received the attention it deserves. 'Decipimur specie recti' the appearance of truth often stands instead of its reality. It is no favourable leaning towards the Church of Rome which prompts the remark that it has had much attributed to it which it deserves only because it has adopted and sanctioned it. We yawn, and laugh, and grieve by turns at the marvels to which Romanism gives currency; yet most of the miraculous stories which stimulate the wonder without deepening the devotion of Roman Catholics, have a much

earlier hooded monks of the vogues long affix in the status dead C more e the doc Papacy the cel imports In the more i tual de into pe tion by of 'Sa person this w its tri of king "TI practi Christi at the Marce his wi of Len Sozom not to W famili learn chap very the C atten tions deer histo men it is

The Ka int fit Bo Exe Mr. Old trans of an the chap "Th know great cour the Eng Sak whic poet of cr in th dram refer fine Gern whic at E and tran the caus dassa is no

earlier origin than the Papacy. We scorn the hooded and ignorant 'trumpery' of modern 'monks, eremites, and friars,' yet, before the close of the third century, asceticism had become in vogue to the destruction of virtue, and it was not long after this volume closes that monkery set up in the person of Symeon Stylites the triumphal statue of its living man openly commemorating a dead Christianity. We abjure, as the parent of more evils than can be named, or even thought of, the doctrine of the celibate; yet long before the Papacy, priests began to abjure their wives, and the celibacy of the clergy was regarded as most important, though not yet enforced by positive law. In the ante-Nicene period sin was regarded much more in its overt demonstrations than in its spiritual destructiveness; repentance had degenerated into penance; regeneration into baptism; justification by faith into—just what the ninetieth number of 'The Tracts for the Times' declares it to be; and sanctification was lost in the names of sacred persons, sacred things, and sacred places. All this was before the Papacy had begun to blazon its triple crown, or to set its feet upon the necks of kings.

"The consequences of these doctrines and these practices became, before the fourth century of Christianity had begun, only too apparent. But at the commencement of the fifth, a presbyter of Marseilles, named Salvian, himself separated from his wife, a contemporary of Jerome, Cyril, Vincent of Lerius, Augustine, Theodoret, Socrates, and Sozomen, gives a picture of the state of the church not to be contemplated without horror."

We may add that Mr. Miall shows himself familiar with the most recent researches of learned men in ecclesiastical history. His chapter on Hippolytus and his times, gives a very able summary of the subjects to which the Chev. Bunsen's valuable work has invited attention. Numerous well-executed illustrations add to the interest of the volume, which deserves to be a popular work on early church history, valuable for its information, and commendable for the style and spirit in which it is written.

The Birth of the War-God. A Poem by Kālidāsa. Translated from the Sanskrit into English verse. By Ralph T. H. Griffith, M.A., of Queen's College, Oxford, Boden Sanskrit Scholar. Allen and Co. ENGLISH readers are already indebted to Mr. Griffith for interesting 'Specimens of Old Indian Poetry.' The poem which is now translated is one of the most famous pieces of ancient Sanskrit literature. Of Kālidāsa, the author, Humboldt thus speaks, in the chapter on Indian poetry, in his 'Kosmos,' "The name of Kālidāsa was early and widely known among the western nations. This great poet flourished in the highly-cultivated court of Vikramaditya, and was consequently the contemporary of Virgil and Horace. The English and German translations of the *Sakontala* have added to the admiration which has been so freely yielded to this poet, whose tenderness of feeling, and richness of creative fancy, entitle him to a high place in the ranks of the poets of all nations." The drama of *Sakontala*, which Humboldt here refers to, is known in England through the fine version of Sir William Jones. Several German translations have been made, of which the last is by Otto Böhtlingk, published at Bonn in 1842. The drama of *Vikrama and Urvashi* is also known to scholars by the translation of Professor Wilson. In Germany the praises of Goethe and Schlegel have caused much attention to be given to Kālidāsa's poetry. 'The Birth of the War-God' is now for the first time offered to the general

reader in an English version. We doubt whether, as a whole, it will meet the expectations raised by the reputation of its author. Judged according to European ideas and classical taste, there is much to prevent its producing a favourable impression, and Mr. Griffith admits its inferiority to other works of "the sweet singer of Oujein," making at the same time the graceful remark that "at all events, if the work itself is not inferior, it has not enjoyed the good fortune of having a Jones or Wilson for translator." So far as learning and industry could prevail, Mr. Griffith has presented a true version, and in some passages he has conveyed the fire and grace as well as the matter of the original poem. As it is supposed that only seven cantos out of twenty-two have been preserved, it is of less consequence to attempt to give any outline of the story of a poem so fragmentary. A single quotation will serve to show the oriental style of the work, and the manner of the translator. We select from the seventh canto, Uma's Bridal, part of the description of the beautiful Indian bride:—

"Fresh from the cooling bath the lovely Maid
In fairest white her tender form arrayed—
So ope the Kāsa all her shining flowers
Lured from their buds by softly falling showers.
Then to a court with canopies o'erhead
A crowd of noble dames the Maiden led—
A court for solemn rites, where gems and gold
Adorn the pillars that the roof uphold.
There on a couch they set her with her face
Turned toward the East—so lovely then the grace
Of that dear Maid, so ravishing her smile,
E'en her attendants turned to gaze awhile,
For though the brightest gems around her lay,
Her brighter beauty stole their eyes away.
Through her long tresses one a flower-wreath wound,
And one with fragrant grass her temples crowned,
While o'er her head sweet clouds of incense rolled
To dry and perfume every shining fold.
Bright dyes of Saffron and the scented wood
Adorned her beauty, till the Maiden stood
Fairer than Ganga when the Love-birds play
O'er sandy islets in her silvery bay.
To what rare beauty shall her maids compare
Her clear brow shaded by her glossy hair?
Less dazzling pure the sacred Lotus shines
Plecked by the thronging bees in dusky lines—
Less bright the Moon, when a dark band of cloud
Enhances beauties which it could not shroud.
Behind her ear a head of barley drew
The eye to gaze upon its golden hue,
But then her cheek with glowing Saffron dyed
To richer beauty called the glance aside;
Though from those lips where Beauty's guerdon lay
The vermeil tints were newly washed away,
Yet o'er them, as she smiled, a ray was thrown
Of quivering brightness that was all their own."

In some of the other cantos, as in the fourth, the Lament of Reti, there are strains of impassioned feeling, rarely surpassed in the poetry of any nation, but the beauties of diction are diffused over so many lines that a brief extract would not give fair idea of the canto. Oriental scholars will appreciate the accuracy and faithfulness of Mr. Griffith's version of Kālidāsa's poem, while the general reader will obtain from it a tolerably correct impression of the subjects and style of the ancient poetry of the East in the Augustan age of Sanskrit literature.

NOTICES.

Christmas at the Hall, and other Poems. By T. J. Terrington, Author of 'Welton Dale.' Longman and Co.

WE are much disappointed with this volume. It does not fulfil the expectations we formed from Mr. Terrington's former poem, 'Welton Dale,' of which we gave a favourable notice on its appearance, (*ante*, p. 131.) We said then that the author had true poetic spirit, and that he might, with labour and experience, produce works worthy of attention. Encouraged by the praise bestowed on his first work, Mr. Terrington has too hastily again come before the public. When he tells us of his

present poem, that "it was commenced at the close of last September, and, amidst many interruptions, concluded at the commencement of the present year;" instead of receiving this as an apology, far less counting it as a merit, we think Mr. Terrington deserves severest censure. Still more so, when he says that when the first "six pages were written, the author was as little aware of precisely what would follow, as the reader will be when he has proceeded no farther." No poet can expect to succeed with this avowed carelessness and precipitancy. It is only in rarest cases that genius can dispense with laborious art. We are not surprised, therefore, to find that most of the poem is crude and pointless. With little to blame there is less to praise. A few lines will suffice to show the nature of the subject:—

"To grace the season, at this ancient Hall,
The feast is held, in the most antique room,
And largest it contains. With wainscoting
Of polished oak, and carvings rich and quaint
The walls are clad. Along the ceiling run
Strong oaken beams that oft each other cross,
Dividing all into compartments square,
With pendants hanging down, adorned with gold
And flower-like wreathings. Panels here and there
Are filled with pictures, where some classic piece,
Or ancient love tale, gives to modern eyes
The thoughts and feelings in the heart of old.
The noble hearth spreads wide, and glorious flames
Roar up the chimney, as if wild with joy
And laughing at the bitter frost without.
Amid their light the yule-log huge burns red,
Diffusing round a warmth that seems to reach
The very heart and make it happier. Boughs
Of laurel, fitted to entwine the brows
Of heroes, mingled with all evergreens
The season yields, in gay and rich festoons,
Or proud bouquets, adorn the walls around.
The holly, with its grey-green crumpled leaves
And berries bright as rubies, shoots red gleams
Like sunset through a forest. Mistletoe,
The choice of Druids, with its slimy balls
And mystic branchings, fills the pensive mind
With memories wild and weird. All things are here
To link thought to the past; all emblems full
Of rich memento, giving to the heart
Sweet impulses, the while the village bells
Peal their glad music with the same deep notes
That struck the ear long centuries ago."

The poem is composed of various pieces in different metres, connected together as the production of a family Christmas party. The design is good, and the variety of metre might have afforded scope for a pleasing work, had the author bestowed on it adequate labour. Among the minor poems in the volume, there is an address to Mr. Wilderspin, the founder of infant schools, written "long before the author had any notion of possessing that relationship (son-in-law) which he now so happily holds." We quote the first part of it, as containing a just eulogy of an excellent philanthropist:—

"Oh Wilderspin! I would attain the harp
Of sweetest poetry to tell thee how,
With heart and spirit, I esteem the work
And labour of thy life! no harsher sound
Than softest music will befit the theme—
No tone less 'frantic than the poet's lyre.
Kind friend of Infants' who in early life,
Amidst the haunts and dwellings of the poor,
Looking around thee, saw them left to roam
In paths of wickedness, untrained, untaught,
Save in the deeds of ill; and with a heart
Of tender care, a mind resolved to act,
Didst love and pity them;—with deepest thought
And observation piercing and intense,
Didst keenly study all the mystic laws
Of mind unfolding in the infant breast,
And feeling rising in each little heart,
That to the one thou mightest know aright
Sweet simple truth in fitting form to give,
And train the other in all moral good,
Beneath the blessing of that God who gives
Full oft a life to truth within the mind,
As to the seeds we scatter in the ground.
By simple stories from the sacred page,
By parables and life-informing fables,
And milk sencers, pure from the Word Divine,
It was thy wish to lead them on to Christ,
And teach them of His love."

Let us not be misunderstood in our remarks on Mr. Terrington's book, as if it possessed little merit. There are passages in 'Christmas at the Hall' far superior to the average poetry of the day. But we cannot let the occasion pass of inculcating, especially on young poets, the necessity of elaborate study, without which they need not hope to produce any work capable of taking place among the classic pieces of our literature.

Spiritual Vampirism: or Etherial Softdown and her Friends of the New Light. By C. W. Webber. Samson Low, Son, and Co.

THE subject of this book is as disagreeable as its title would import. It presents a strange picture of the wild excesses which too much prevail at the present time with regard to mesmerism, clairvoyance, and other excitements. In America all these questions are taken up with the energy and exaggeration of the country. With animal magnetism and the odic power, are here mixed up women's right conventions, fanatic camp-meetings, Swedenborgian visions, Mormon orgies, and all manner of phases of credulity, imposture, and mischief. The weaving of the topics in the form of a biographical tale is managed with cleverness, and with a naturalness that makes us fear that too many of the scenes and characters are sketched from actual life. The author's design is the commendable one of exposing some of the evils of modern American society. Profitable lessons may be derived from the book, and it affords curious materials for social and philosophical study. We have in England all sorts of cant and imposture, but it is startling to read of the more energetic and better organized systems of social disorder that prevail in the great cities of the United States, as revealed in this history of 'Spiritual Vampirism.'

A Comparative Atlas of Ancient and Modern Geography, comprised in fifty-four Maps. By Alexander G. Findlay, F.R.G.S. Tegg and Co.

FOR purposes of mere elementary instruction in the facts of Geography there are various atlases more suitable than this of Mr. Findlay. But for combining the illustration of history with geographical instruction it is a work of peculiar excellence. By presenting at one view the ancient and modern maps, the comparative geography is readily studied, and points of much interest are suggested in connexion with the history of nations. Thus, in regard to England and Wales, one side of the page gives the map of Britannia as known to the Romans, the modern names of towns and places printed under the ancient names, and in another map on the corresponding sheet the map of England appears according to the present date. In all the modern maps the most recent discoveries and researches have been embodied, and the best authorities appear to have been consulted in every part of the work. The index of ancient and modern places, with references to the maps, is of unusual minuteness, professing to give every name occurring in the maps. The introduction to the 'Atlas' is an ably-written sketch, especially in that part where Mr. Findlay refers to the countries of which our knowledge is yet very imperfect, and to which the attention of geographical discoverers at present most requires to be directed.

Six-Preacher Sermons, including the subjects of National Education, Lent Duties and Services, and the Life and Ministry of St. Paul. Delivered in Canterbury Cathedral, by the Rev. Charles Forster, B.D., one of the Six-Preachers. Bentley. MR. FORSTER is a man of learning and ingenuity, as his works on 'The One Primeval Language,' and the Sinaitic inscriptions, amply testify. Of his present volume of sermons we can pronounce it to be solid in matter, and generally orthodox according to the Anglican rubric. On the subjects of National Education, Lent Duties and Services, with the exclusion of Jews from Parliament, and other points incidentally introduced, Mr. Forster's views are such as might be expected to be spoken from the cathedral pulpit of Canterbury. There are some matters of literary taste less in harmony with a scene so conspicuous and subjects so weighty. A pun in the pulpit is scarcely becoming, as where the preacher says, that "between Arians and Unitarians there is only a unit of difference." Still worse in these days of Protestant testimony is the choice of a text from an apocryphal book for the sermon entitled 'The Uses of Adversity.' Mr. Forster might as well have given out Shakspeare's words, "Sweet are the uses of adversity." The selection of an apocryphal text from the book of the Son of Sirach is the more unpardonable, as

there are many verses of precisely the same import in the Sacred Scriptures. The author in a sort of apologetic strain begins his sermon by saying that the text is similar to others in canonical books. There was no need then to take it. Neither ought Mr. Forster to have referred to the words in the discourse as "a portion of the Holy Bible."

Christ our Life: in its Origin, Law, and End. By Joseph Angus, D.D., Member of the Royal Asiatic Society. Nisbet and Co.

A GENTLEMAN in the civil service of the East India Company offered some time since a prize for 'An Essay on the Life of Christ, adapted to missionary purposes, and suitable for translation into the vernacular languages of India.' The adjudicators of the prize were the late Professor Scholefield of the University of Cambridge, the Rev. John Tucker, Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, and the Rev. Thomas Sale, now Vicar of Sheffield, who unanimously pronounced the present work the best of sixty-four Essays sent in for competition. The work is worthy of the high reputation which the author bears for learning and piety, and is admirably adapted for the special purpose for which the Essay was designed. Dr. Angus is president of the college in London for the education of ministers and missionaries belonging to the Baptist denomination. His name is worthy to rank with the distinguished scholars and divines, such as Carey, Ward, Marshman, who belonged to that religious body, and specially devoted their talents to the evangelization, of India.

A Class-Book of Elocution. By J. H. Aitken. Johnstone and Hunter.

WE have a great variety of books on elocution, old Enfield's 'Speaker' still pre-eminent, but many of the new works have peculiarities of merit which entitle them to notice. The 'Class-Book' of Mr. Aitken, who is a teacher of elocution and of English composition in Glasgow, is superior in its principles and exercises, the professional experience of the author enabling him to adapt his system to the requirements of pupils. The selection of extracts is not so varied or judicious as in some other books of the kind, but it has the advantage of containing a number of admirable pieces from Chalmers, Jeffrey, Hugh Miller, Lockhart, and other Scottish writers, not usually found in English class-books, though deserving a place given to authors of less genius and merit. The author's remarks on the principles of elocution are often sensible and ingenious.

SUMMARY.

THE first part has appeared of a new dictionary of universal knowledge, *The English Cyclopædia*, based on the 'Penny Cyclopædia,' and conducted by the spirited proprietor of that work, Mr. Charles Knight. Whatever is of unchanged and permanent interest in the former work is retained; but corrections and additions are freely made, so that the matter is brought up to the existing state of knowledge in each department. As twenty years have elapsed since the 'Penny Cyclopædia' was commenced, and ten since it was completed, ample time has elapsed for another edition being demanded. The new name is better than the old one, which was liable with the uninformed to convey an erroneous estimate of the high literary and scientific value of the work, and gave the impression of its being a mere popular digest of knowledge. The highest talent and skill will be employed in the preparation of the additional matter, as in the case of the 'Penny Cyclopædia,' the literary expenditure on which amounted to 35,000*l.*, and the illustrations to more than 8000*l.* The 'English Cyclopædia' will be illustrated with five thousand wood engravings. The work is to be published in weekly numbers, the successive numbers relating to different divisions into which the Cyclopædia is divided. The departments of Geography and Natural History are to be first completed. The whole work will occupy sixteen volumes.

The French romancer, Prosper Mérimée, has written *A Chronicle of the Reign of Charles IX.*, which is translated by Andrew R. Scoble, and

published for the edification of English readers. M. Mérimée maintains that "the massacre of St. Bartholomew was not the result of a conspiracy, but the consequence of a popular insurrection, which could not have been foreseen, and which was altogether extemporaneous and unpremeditated." After this, we shall not be surprised to meet with a serious attempt to prove that Guy Fawkes is a mere myth, and the story of the gunpowder plot an invention of bigoted Protestants. M. Mérimée cannot be ignorant of the many proofs of the whole scheme being pre-arranged, and of the time of its being carried out being known at Rome, and to the ambassadors of the courts friendly to the Guises. In Ranke's 'History of the Civil Wars and of the Monarchy,' a correct account of the whole affair is given, though we think he ascribes too much of the plot to the personal animosity of Catherine de Medicis against the Admiral Coligny, (*ante*, p. 78.) A Corsican story, by the same author, *Colomba*, also translated by Mr. Scoble, will be more interesting to English readers, as its scenes are laid in a country with which they are less familiar, and in the course of the story many Corsican events and usages are introduced.

The subjects of the following pamphlets are sufficiently indicated by their titles. *Spirit Rappings*, an exposure of the imposture. The author states that the 'original Rappers' in America cleared 75,000 dollars. The rappings never occur when the feet of the 'medium' are watched. Yet from a silly trick like this it is reported, from the asylums of the United States, that the heads of nearly six hundred unfortunate dupes have been turned, and seventeen persons have committed suicide. *Antiquity Surrendered; or, Romanism a Novelty*, by the Rev. Hugh M'Neill, D.D., Hon. Canon of Chester; a letter to a Roman Catholic, showing the comparatively recent origin of the peculiar tenets of the Romish Church. *A Correspondence Relative to the Discovery of Gold in Australia*, in which Mr. Earl, in letters to the Right Hon. Lord Colchester, urges his claims to the priority of pointing out the similarity of the Ural and Australian mountains in their metalliferous properties. *An Epistola to H.R.H. Prince Albert, as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge*, contains suggestions for a complete system of legal instruction, by Patrick Colquhoun, LL.D. *Proposal of a Plan for Remodelling the Government of India*, submitted to Her Majesty's ministers and both Houses of Parliament.

A Book of Family Prayers, by the Sacrist of Durham, has the peculiarity of being entirely compiled from the public liturgy of the Church of England. A little treatise by Margaret Maria Brewster, the same lady, we suppose, to whom Dr. Chalmers wrote the letter which we quoted lately (*ante*, p. 522), is entitled, *Work, Plenty to do, and how to do it*, an earnest and practical appeal on Christian activity and usefulness. Five discourses on *Saint Paul*, by the Rev. Adolphe Monod, of Paris, one of the most distinguished of the French Protestant clergy of the present day, are translated by the Rev. W. G. Barrett, of Royston. The discourses are of a practical kind, and are written in the same judicious and affectionate style which M. Monod displayed in his former treatise on 'Woman, her Mission and her Life.' A second edition is published of an American tale, illustrative of scenes and occupations of real life, *The Shady Side; or, Life in a Country Parsonage*, by a Pastor's Wife. Under the title of *The Finger of God*, some discourses by the Rev. John Cumming, D.D., present a variety of illustrations of the divine government in the affairs of men, written in the discursive and superficial, but clever and popular style, for which the author is remarkable.

A Week at the Bridge of Allan, by Charles Roger, F.S.A.Scot. The second edition, greatly enlarged, illustrated with thirty engravings, gives an account of the Spa, and a series of six excursions to the scenery of the central districts of Scotland, a book worthy of the attention of tourists, and got up with the care and taste which mark the various Scottish guide-books published by the Messrs. Black of Edinburgh.

In Bohn's 'Antiquarian Library' appears the second volume of *The Annals of Roger de Hovenden*, translated by Henry T. Riley, Esq., B.A. This volume comprises the history from A.D. 1181 to A.D. 1201. In the 'Scientific Library,' we have the third and concluding volume of *Humboldt's Personal Narrative of Travels*, translated and edited by Thomasina Ross, with notes and a carefully prepared index.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Agnes Maynard; or, Day Dreams and Realities, 10s. 6d.
 Agular's (Grace) Home Scenes and Heart Studies, 6s. 6d.
 Women of Israel, new edition, 2 vols., 12s.
 Akerman's (J. Y.) Wiltshire Tales, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Arnold's School Classics, Sallust's Jugurthine War, 3s. 6d.
 Beasley's (E. C.) Laocoon, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Behind the Curtain; a Tale of Elville, p. 8vo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
 Bellingham's (O. D.) Diseases of the Heart, 8vo, cloth, 6s.
 Biographical Memoranda of Wellington, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Black's (Rev. C. J.) Messias and Anti-Messias, post 8vo, 5s.
 Blackstone's Real and Personal Property, 8vo, cloth, £1.
 Blair's Lectures, new edition, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Bode's (S. E.) Ballads from Herodotus, square, cloth, 5s.
 Bowe's (P.) Farm Book-Keeping, 4 vols., 8vo, cloth, £1 1s.
 Churchill's Mount Lebanon, 3 vols., 8vo, cloth, £2 2s.
 D'Aubigné's Reformation, Vol. 4, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
 Domestic Cookery, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Dyce's Notes on Shakespeare, 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Edden's Abridgement of Riddle's Lexicon, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Faben's (J. W.) Camel Hunt, post 8vo, cloth, 4s.
 Griffith's Chemistry of the Four Seasons, foolscap, 7s. 6d.
 Gurney's Poems, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Hall's (James) Tales, 12mo, cloth, 6s. 6d.
 Helen Morton's Trial, by Cousin Alice, 12mo, cloth, 4s.
 Hind's (W.) Harmonies of Physical Science, fcap, 8vo, 5s.
 Jamieson's Religious Biography, 2nd edition, 8vo, cloth, 6s.
 John's (Rev. B. G.) Sermons to the Blind, 12mo, 3s. 6d.
 Kelly's Sabbath Evening Readings, new edition, 12mo, 7s.
 Le Bâhn's German in one Volume, 8s.; with Key, 10s. 6d.
 Lewis's (Rev. T.) Memoir, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Livingstone's (P.) Poetry of Geography, fcap, 8vo, 2s. 6d.
 Lynch's (T. T.) Memorials of Theophilus Train, cloth, 6s.
 Lytton's Poetical and Dramatic Works, Vol. 3, p. 8vo, 8s.
 Mahon's History of England, Vol. 4, 8vo, cloth, 14s.
 ———— 4 vols. 8vo, cloth, £2 8s.
 Major's (J. E.) Thirteen Satires of Juvenal, p. 8vo, 10s. 6d.
 Manual for Spiritual Mourners, foolscap 8vo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Maurice's (F. D.) Theological Essays, 8vo, cloth, 10s.
 Merry Tales for Little Folk, 16mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Mill's (Rev. John) British Jews, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Nelson's (D.) Infidelity, 12mo, cloth, 2s.
 Page's Lectures on Surgical Pathology, 2 vols. 8vo, £1 3s.
 ———— Lectures on Tumours, 8vo, cloth, 16s.
 Perry's (T. G.) Village, and other Poems, square, cl., 2s. 6d.
 Phillips's (J. A.) Gold Mining and Assaying, 2s. 6d.
 Pigot's (J. D.) Egypt, 12mo, cloth, 4s.
 Rawstone's (Rev. W. E.) Sermons, Vol. 1, foolscap, 6s.
 Schmitz's Tales, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Sharpe's Magazine, new series, Vol. 2, royal 8vo, 6s. 6d.
 Sow's (D.) Training System, 9th edition, post 8vo, 6s.
 Sunday Afternoons in the Nursery, square, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Taylor's History of the Taxation of England, 8vo, 7s. 6d.
 Thackeray's English Humourists of 18th Century, 10s. 6d.
 Thomson's Dictionary of Medicine, new edition, 8vo, 7s.
 Trollope's (Mrs.) Young Heiress, 3 vols. p. 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
 Vaughan's (R.) The Age and Christianity, 12mo, 2s. 6d.
 Watch and Pray, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Watson's (W.) Cruise in the Ægean, post 8vo, 10s. 6d.

JOSEPH COTTLE.

The announcement of the death this week, at Bristol, of Mr. Joseph Cottle, recalls various recollections of somewhat remote date. In the literary world his name was chiefly known in connexion with the early history of Coleridge, Southey, and Wordsworth. His 'Recollections of S. T. Coleridge' will always be regarded as a book containing many valuable biographical notices. The closing sentences of the first volume of that work give an admirable idea of the kind and genial spirit of the Bristol bookseller, who, himself an author as well as a publisher, thus expressed his sympathy for men of genius and learning:—

"The volume of the Lyrical Ballads was published about Midsummer, 1798. In September of the same year, Mr. Coleridge and Mr. Wordsworth left England for Germany, and I for ever quitted the business of a bookseller, with the earnest hope that the time might never arrive when Bristol possessed not a bookseller prompt to extend a friendly hand to every man of genius, home-born or exotic, that might be found within its borders."

Mr. Cottle wrote various works in prose and verse. One of the latter, 'The Fall of Cambria,' gave handle to Lord Byron for a satirical allusion, to which the connexion of the author with the English bards of the Lake school was enough to expose him—

"Beotian Cottle, rich Bristowa's boast,
 Imports old stories from the Cambrian coast;"

—lines to which Mr. Cottle in his 'Recollections' playfully alludes, but speaks with more severity of the reference to his brother—

"O Amos Cottle—Phœbus! what a name!"

Amos Cottle, who was four years older than Joseph, died in the year 1800. He was a classical scholar, and a man of taste. Of his personal character and literary attainments his brother gives a sketch in his 'Recollections.' Byron says he did not know which of the two Cottles wrote 'The Fall of Cambria.' The name of Joseph being on the title-page, the satirist had probably never seen the book.

Mr. Coleridge's first volume of poems was published by Mr. Cottle in the beginning of April, 1796, and his sense of the kind conduct of the latter to him throughout the whole affair was expressed in the following manner, on a leaf in a copy of the work:—

"Bristol, April 15, 1798.

"Dear Cottle,—On the blank leaf of my poems I can most appropriately write my acknowledgments to you for your too disinterested conduct in the purchase of them. Indeed, if ever they should acquire a name and character, it might be said the world owed them to you. Had it not been for you, none, perhaps, of them would have been published, and some not written.—Your obliged and affectionate friend,

"S. T. COLERIDGE."

Coleridge, in his 'Biographia Literaria,' strangely suppresses all reference to the Bristol epoch of his life. The biographical supplement to the second edition, by Henry Nelson Coleridge, contains notices of Mr. Cottle, somewhat supplying the omission. But his own 'Recollections of Coleridge' present the chief points of literary interest with which his name is associated. He died on Tuesday, at his residence, Firfield House, Knowle, near Bristol, in his 84th year.

PROFESSOR AYTOUN'S LECTURES.

DR. AYTOUN'S Lectures on Poesy and Dramatic Literature have been the subject of much private discussion in literary circles, and this week they have been made the subject of public criticism. With some of his views we concur, and with many of his poetical illustrations we were pleased; but on certain points, and these the most prominent and distinctive in the course, he maintained tenets against which we cannot now withhold our protest. In being silent, we might be thought to agree with them. The burden of the lectures throughout was a panegyric on ballad poetry; and this was, perhaps, natural in one who has himself excelled in such compositions. But in order to sing the praises of one style of writing it is hardly necessary to speak disparagingly of every other. We admire the ballad poetry of Sir Walter Scott, but when Professor Aytoun, in his anxiety to prove it 'familiar as household words,' asserted that not a school-boy could be found who would not repeat half-a-dozen lines of it on the instant, the general titter among the literary portion of his audience that followed was not very confirmatory of this view. Who, we would ask, disputes the merit of ballad poetry in its own place? But Professor Aytoun went further. He allowed himself to set an undue value upon poetry merely because it is old and rough; and manifested too strong a tendency to call everything ancient *natural*, and everything modern *artificial*. The same delusion has occurred before in the history of literature. We ask Dr. Aytoun's remembrance of the famous lines of Horace, beginning "*Sic fuitur veterum*." In the days of Augustus there was the same crying up of the old ballads, the *annosa volumina vatum*, the same depreciation of modern genius and art. It was this fashion of the day that called forth the noble epistle '*Ad Augustum*,' so happily imitated by Pope,—

"Authors, like coins, grow dear as they grow old;

It is the rust we value, not the gold!"

One likes no language but the *Ætære* Queen,

A Scot will fight for 'Christ's Kirk o' the Green.'"

Does not the last line hit off Professor Aytoun at a stroke? We could not help applying it, during the lectures, as we heard his perpetual abuse of Pope. Surely one may admire the old Jacobite songs, or the border ballads, without losing his admiration of the 'Moral Essays,' or the 'Rape of the Lock.' Let Professor Aytoun consider what Lord Byron

says of Pope, when he terms him "the most perfect and harmonious of poets,—he who, having no fault, has had reason made his reproach. It is this very harmony," adds Byron, "which has raised the vulgar and atrocious cant against him; because his versification is perfect, it is asserted that it is his only perfection; because his truths are so clear, it is asserted that he has no invention; and because he is always intelligible, it is taken for granted that he has no genius." We had no sympathy with this part of Professor Aytoun's lectures, and neither, we venture to say, had one in fifty of his audience. Who denies the merit of 'Chevy Chase,' and does not feel his soul stirred within him by its lines as with the sound of a trumpet? Addison, another of the poor artificial writers whom it is the fashion with those of Mr. Aytoun's school to depreciate, gave one or two 'Spectators,' to point out the merits of 'Chevy Chase,' but his fine taste and discriminating judgment led him to devote many a paper to the genius, the learning, and the taste displayed in Milton's 'Paradise Lost.' A few cold passing words were all that Professor Aytoun vouchsafed to Milton! In fact, wherever the lecturer ventured to leave his own favourite ground, there was lack both of taste and judgment. For Shakespeare he professed suitable veneration; but when even here he attempted special criticism, as, for instance, in citing the working of Lady Macbeth's conscience in her sleep-walking as evidence of repentance, he showed himself apt to blunder. But we are not disposed to enter into details. If he lecture again on ballad poetry let him keep to his text, and he will carry the convictions and delight the feelings of an intelligent audience. To present such an estimate of classical, opposed to popular poetry, as we have here indicated, is sheer heresy, and serves only for amusement. It is as if an enthusiastic musician, in exalting the simple and pleasing melodies of a rude people, set himself to depreciate the sublime compositions of a Handel or Mozart. We can admire the stirring notes of the bagpipe without depreciating the lofty strains of the organ. One word, in conclusion, about the theory which Professor Aytoun propounded with so much formal pomp, and with the assertion of novelty, as to the merit of poetry being in an inverse ratio to civilisation. Dr. Samuel Johnson, in a few sentences in his inimitable 'Rasselas,' has made Imlac say all that the learned Professor wished to convey on this subject, concluding, that "whatever be the reason, it is commonly observed that the early writers are in possession of nature, and their followers of art: that the first excel in strength and invention, and the latter in elegance and refinement." As we wish to treat the learned and ingenious lecturer with all fairness, we give him the benefit of this authoritative confirmation of his theory.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

Who is *Bon Gaultier*?—Aytoun or Martin? has been the subject of a hot controversy in 'The Times' this week, conducted like most similar controversies in ignorance of the facts. That this *nom de plume* belongs of right to Mr. Martin there can be no doubt, as we know it to have been used by him, and by him only, years before any of the ballads were written which have given rise to the present controversy. As to the 'Book of Ballads,' which bears on its title-page to be 'edited' by Bon Gaultier, it has always been understood that Aytoun had acted as the coadjutor of his friend in their production, at the time when both were resident in Edinburgh, and beguiled their leisure in a literary brotherhood of the Beaumont and Fletcher kind. All the facts are well known to us, and enable us to contradict the unqualified claim set up for Professor Aytoun to the authorship of these ballads by an anonymous correspondent of 'The Times,' who writes with a show of accurate information. But as we understand that a new edition of this popular volume is preparing for the press, in which the matter will be set at rest in the most authentic shape, we forbear, for the present, from entering further into the question.

Two men have recently passed away whose names have been almost forgotten by the present generation, except as connected with a former period of literature—Charles Elton and Joseph Cottle. Sir Charles Abraham Elton, who succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1842, was in early life well known in the literary world. His 'Translation of Hesiod,' his 'Specimens of Classic Poets,' in three volumes, and 'History of the Roman Emperors,' display varied learning and sound taste. Of original poetry his best known piece is 'The Brothers,' suggested by the melancholy loss of his two eldest sons, who were drowned at Weston-super-Mare in 1819. In a previous volume he had published 'Boyhood, and other Poems.' He died last week at Clevedon, in Somerset, in his seventy-fifth year. Of Joseph Cottle, of Bristol, we give a short memoir elsewhere.

The efforts that are ripening in the Society of Arts towards systematising the means of industrial instruction throughout the country, have been this week liberally responded to by the Lord Mayor of London. Mayors and delegates have come, at the invitation of our chief magistrate, from different parts of the kingdom to hold conferences; and on Wednesday a number of artists and literary and scientific men were invited to a *conversazione* at the Mansion House to meet them. Some valuable works of art, and an interesting collection of books, models, and other educational apparatus, were exhibited. This idea of propitiating the corporate authorities is an important practical step in the march of intellectual progress, and Lord Mayor Challis has our best wishes for its success.

On Monday evening last, Professor Edward Forbes brought the Lectures to the Working Men, in the Government School of Mines, to a conclusion. Eighteen lectures have been given this year, on Monday evenings, by Professor Hunt, 'On Applied Physics,' by Professor Ramsay, 'On Geology,' and Professor Edward Forbes, 'On Natural History,' and on every occasion the theatre of the Institution has been crowded with a most intelligent and attentive audience. On this occasion, Mr. Cardwell, President of the Board of Trade, under which department the Government School of Mines has been lately placed, was present, and at the conclusion of the lecture briefly addressed the men on the advantages of the study of applied science, stating that the anxious desire of the Government was to extend the objects of the Institution in the direction of industrial instruction to the utmost degree. A vote of thanks was moved by one of the men, and seconded by another, to Professor Edward Forbes and his colleagues, who had lectured with Sir Henry de la Beche, the director of the establishment, for the great treat they had enjoyed and the valuable information which had been afforded them. Sir Henry de la Beche briefly replied, and thus terminated the second session of an experiment on the part of our Government which has been remarkably successful.

While several metropolitan institutions of the smaller class have fallen into decay, we have pleasure in noticing the establishment, under favourable auspices, of a new literary and scientific institution in the northern districts of London, to be called the Camden Athenæum. An influential committee has been formed, and office-bearers elected, the Marquis of Camden consenting to act as president, Lords Southampton, Carlisle, and Robert Grosvenor as vice-presidents, and the Rev. Canon Dale as chairman of the committee. The erection or purchase of a spacious central building, and the formation of a library and reading-room, are immediately proposed. The district, including Camden Town, Kentish Town, and other parts adjacent to the Regent's Park, has a population well able to support such an institution. The prospectus calls special attention to the advantage of having a building where a good concert or oratorio may be heard, without the inhabitants traveling some miles, and paying exorbitant prices, as at present. The hall may also serve as a public room for meetings for local purposes apart from the objects of the Athenæum. The funds are to be raised by subscription

shares, the advice of counsel being given as to the non-liability of shareholders, under certain conditions, which are pointed out. An efficient response to the proposal has already been made in the district, and the institution is likely to be soon in active progress. The committee embraces several names well known to general science and literature, besides men of local activity and influence. Conversazioni, lectures, classes, and the other usual appliances of these popular institutes, are among the inducements offered in the prospectus of the Camden Athenæum.

The Great Western Railway Literary Society, founded for the purpose of supplying the officers and clerks of the Company with books for reading, has just issued its first annual report, by which the success of the undertaking seems to be very fairly established. 242. have been raised by donations, and 831. by subscriptions and entrance fees. Of this sum 2007. have been expended in books, and 407. in newspapers, periodicals, printing, and binding, while the business of the Society has been carried on for the mere charge of ten guineas per annum for librarian's salary. Already the library contains as many as 1375 volumes, and a catalogue of them is said to be in preparation. The Society consists of 166 contributing members, and as the subscription for members at country stations is only eight shillings per annum, we trust that the officers and clerks throughout the whole of the Great Western line, as well as that of the South Wales Company, to which the benefits of the Society have been liberally extended, will hasten to become members.

A gentleman presented lately to the Historical Society of Lower Saxony at Hanover, a silver medal of great interest, having been coined by John of Leyden, whom Meyerbeer's *Prophet* has now rendered so popular. The one side contains the inscription, "Johan van Leiden, Ein Koninck der Widerdoper zo Monster," and the portrait of a powerfully built, good-looking man, with energetic features and a long beard; he is dressed in imperial costume, and holds in his right a roll of paper, in his left a sceptre. Under the portrait are the words, "Wahrhaftig Conter" (a faithful counterfeiter). The other contains the coat of arms which the Anabaptist had adopted—a globe, with a cross upon it, two swords crossing each other, and a crown, with the motto, "Gottes Macht ist myn Cracht" (God's support is my power.) M.D.XXXV.I. (1536.)

On the 15th of May the Royal Botanic Gardens of Kew were for the first time thrown open on a Sunday, and visitors have ever since been able to visit and remain in this national establishment from two until six p.m. The number admitted averages from 2000 to 3500 per diem. It was feared that the Sunday visitors, differing as they do considerably from those of week days, might not conduct themselves with that degree of propriety which is absolutely necessary at a place where such valuable collections are exposed as at Kew—collections depending chiefly for their protection on those for whose gratification and instruction they are intended. But these fears, we are happy to say, have proved groundless. The behaviour of the visitors has been excellent throughout. We might have predicted such a result on the principle that those who have sufficient taste to admire and enjoy the works of nature and art, are generally not deficient in good manners.

It has long been a debateable question in France, whether or no Rabelais preceded Mathieu Laensberg in concocting almanacks for popular use—some authorities maintaining that he did, others denying it. The point has just been set at rest in a curious way. M. Guillemot, a bookseller, had the curiosity to cut up the cover of a book printed in 1542. In the interior, to his surprise and delight, he found two leaves, one of them the title of an almanack by "Maistre Francoys Rabelais, docteur en médecine," (*sic*), published at Lyons in 1541. This literary treasure has been purchased by the Bibliothèque Nationale.

We regret to find that the very remarkable gravestone, with runic inscription, found last year on the

south side of Saint Paul's Churchyard, is not secured for the British Museum. At a recent meeting of the Archaeological Institute, Mr. Franks stated that he had used all endeavours to obtain this curious relic for the national collection, but in vain, and that the tenant of the warehouse now built on the spot where it was found purposes building it into the wall of his chief room! We trust he may be induced to revoke this decision, and that it may yet be secured for the British Museum, certainly its fittest abiding place, where it may be seen and inspected by all.

Vestiges of Old London continue to disappear by piecemeal. A row of singular-looking old houses in Milford-lane, opposite Saint Clement's Church, in the Strand, have within these few weeks past been swept away to make room for more commodious buildings. It is not the 'devouring element' alone which has removed so many traces of the habitations of our ancestors in this vast capital, but a desire for improvement, and as we looked at the foundations of the old structures in question, with their hideous cesspools, we could scarcely regret their demolition.

M. Galanos, a Greek, and the most distinguished linguist amongst his countrymen, died recently at Benares, in Hindostan. He was professor of Sanscrit in the university of that city. He has bequeathed his manuscripts, consisting of learned treatises on the languages of Asia, to the University of Athens.

We may remind our scientific friends that Lord Rosse's fourth and concluding *soirée* for the season, as President of the Royal Society, takes place this evening, at his Lordship's mansion in Connaught-place.

The Archaeological Association of Brittany is to hold its annual meeting at Vauves on the 25th September next.

The Exhibition of the Works of Old Masters at the British Institution has always peculiar claims upon the attention of the educated public. Rather a school for connoisseurs than a lounge for the idle spectator, on a spare afternoon, it appeals to a more informed class of spectators, and shows at once the general love for high art which characterizes the wealthy and refined amongst us, and their liberality in dispensing the advantages of the acquirements of their fortune to others. Characteristic as it is of this country, we may well be proud of the display, not only that there are those amongst us who possess such pictures, but that they are willing to offer them for the study and inspection of artists and amateurs. The collection opened to the public on Monday is perhaps not signal in works of very commanding interest, but the general quality of the contributions is uniformly good. Almost every specimen presents some interesting features, and in some particular schools the assemblage is unusually rich. Thus, of the works of the favourite Canaletto, we have not only the canal scenes which are so familiar, but some views of the Square of St. Mark, one of them in particular (118) filled with figures in those peculiar costumes, and engaged in those pursuits and ceremonies, which describe at one view the life and manners of a people. Besides these there are two views of *Westminster Bridge* (154 and 156), from the Duke of Northumberland's collection, which show how a Claude-like purity of atmosphere, and an accuracy of architectural drawing, worthy of Vanderheyden, may be applied to our moist skies and anything but silver Thames. The masters with whom we have ventured to compare the Venetian painter are both worthily represented. The *Cupid and Psyche* (16) of the painter of Lorraine is a truly magnificent production, presenting all the attractions with which the sunny painter wins every eye. The *Apollo* (4) and *Sea Port* (8), though less distinguished in excellences, display the peculiarities, nay, mannerisms of the artist in unmistakable prominence. The work of Vanderheyden to which we have alluded is a joint production of him and Adrian Vanderveelde, a *View of Cologne* (8), from Mr. Hope's collection. The predominance of the English taste for the Dutch

school is evidenced by the large proportion of works of this class. Ruysdael takes the lead in landscape, in two splendid examples, *The Waterfall* (12) and *Landscape* (147), both exhibiting the intuitive sympathy with nature, the dignified melancholy, and the extensive knowledge of that great artist. J. Both is distinguished by some splendid bursts of glowing colour, as in the *Scenery near Sabieco* (107), the *Landscape* (161), and the *Landscape and Figures* (52); where, however, brilliancy and harmony and great skill of composition compensate for comparative deficiencies of thought. Cuyp is also fairly exhibited, and not more, in several characteristic pictures. The *Landscape and Cattle* (7) is splendid in all its parts; the *Landscape with Sheep* (38), less brilliant at first sight, is curious, as exhibiting the artist's profound method of treating distance and aerial perspective; the others (45 and 74) are much as usual. The moonlit world of clouds, and mysterious gradations of light and shade of Vandermere, are beautifully shown in the instances 43 and 105; and a Hobbins (67), large and full of foliage, is one of the finest possible examples of this favourite style. A surprising picture by Teniers, called *La Fête des Chaudrons* (17), exhibits several hundreds of figures in an elaborately composed scene, engaged in some quaint festival, and forms an interesting study. Wouvermans is best represented by the elaborate painting, *Starting for the Chase* (5), Wynants by the *Landscape* (31). Eminent among the productions of the last-mentioned country, if not of the immediate school we have mentioned, is the truly splendid portrait of *Leonard Brainer* (21), by Rembrandt. The great painter is here in all his highest powers of broad treatment, light and shade, and solidity of colour. The *Dutch Lady and Gentleman* (13) is painted in a finished style, which is equally successful in its way, showing the resources of the painter, if there be less opportunity of exhibiting here his masterly powers. A noble specimen of Maas from the Hope collection (39), several landscapes by Pynacker, and sea-pieces by Vanderhelde, are secondary only to these first-rate productions of the Dutch school. Rubens is represented by a large painting, treated as to composition in a stately manner, though somewhat formal. The subject is *Thomyris, Queen of the Massagetae, ordering Cyrus's Head to be dipped in Blood* (1), from Lord Darnley's collection. The serenity of the courtiers, and the dignified calmness of the whole group, are in Rubens's lordly style, but hardly suit the revolting character of the incident. The colouring of the draperies is peculiarly rich. There are only a few specimens of Titian; but two handsome portraits of Vandyke, *Prince Maurice* (15) and *Prince Rupert* (19), are worthy alike of the artist and the subjects. Amongst the Italians, three studies by M. Angelo and S. del Piombo, from the walls of Sa. Maria delle Pace, at Rome, will attract the first attention. Apart from their historical interest, it may be observed that their merit as works of art appears extremely unequal, being as weak in some parts as they are surprisingly powerful in others. Such instances are for academicians and students of art and history; they appeal only to a remote and select class of admirers. Amongst the older masters, Fra Bartolomeo is conspicuous in two subjects of very eminent skill, *A Concert of Children* (86), and *Two Monks* (75), remarkable for sublime devotional feeling and fine colour. A *St. Theresa relieving the Sick* (9), by Alonso Cano, is a strange instance of that early style; and Cranach's *Portraits of the Reformers* (90) have an earnestness about their uncouth mannerism which only just redeems them from the class of caricatures. A *Benjamin* (108), by Zurbaran, and *Portrait of Himself* (89), are two invaluable contributions, illustrative of the Spanish school; a *Holy Family* (36), by Biscanio, is another instance of value, alike from its quality as from its character, which is little known amongst us. But whether the increased publicity which has been of late bestowed upon the Spanish school will increase its popularity is, at least, a matter of question. The works of Sebastian Bourdon, and an exquisite Andrea del Sarto, deserve attention; and

a truly grand and expressive *Portrait* (29); also *The Virgin and Magdalene* (87), by L. da Vinci, are most characteristic specimens of his surpassing genius. The works of Salvator Rosa are also numerous. *Fortune* (78) is a noble figure, painted in strict subservience to the style of a school, but airy and magnificent; *Roman Augusta* (73) is of a more savage and powerful style; Macaulay must have been thinking of this when he wrote of the thunder-smitten oak of Alvernus, and "the pale augurs muttering low," who "gaze on the blasted head." But, finally, to make mention of the English school, Haydon's grand composition, *The Judgment of Solomon* (142) from Sir Edwin Landseer's gallery, will revive many a sad recollection; whilst it will probably be thought that a debt of fame is owing to this unhappy artist, such as his eager aspirations were only too anxious to anticipate. Some portraits by Sir Joshua and sketches by Lawrence call for no particular notice; but the portrait of *Garwick and his Wife*, by Hogarth (167), graciously contributed by Her Majesty, has interest for every one. Some landscapes by Wilson have peculiar interest for the student in this room, and a picture by an unfrequent artist, Massimo (127), from the Duke of Sutherland's collection. Further enumeration is denied to us, though every individual picture might well deserve commemorating. In conclusion, we will only mention that two of Turner's finest works, *The Tenth Plague* (164) and *Temple of Jupiter, Agina* (107), in opposite styles, already familiar by engraving, present their rival merits for the study of the spectator. On the whole, though the collection is a small one, consisting of 173 pictures only, it is almost impossible to imagine one that concentrates so much and various interest—though, as we have said, there is nothing of a very commanding degree of eminence.

The meeting at Willis's Rooms last Saturday, about the proposed erection of Baron Marochetti's statue of *Richard Cœur de Lion*, was of the most influential and satisfactory kind. The Marquis of Lansdowne, in an appropriate and graceful address from the chair, explained the object of the meeting, and announced donations of 200*l.* and 100*l.* from Her Majesty and Prince Albert. The resolutions were moved and seconded by Earl Granville, the Earl of Eglinton, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Labouchere, Viscount Canning, Mr. Smedley, High Bailiff of Westminster, Lord Overstone, and Mr. H. T. Hope. A committee was appointed to carry out the proposed object, and Lord Hatherton and Mr. Reeve were requested to act as honorary secretaries.

At a meeting of old Harrovians, held last week at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street, resolutions were adopted for the erection of a monument in Harrow church to the memory of the late Dr. George Butler, Dean of Peterborough, formerly head-master of the school. Earl Delawarr was in the chair. One of the resolutions was moved by Herman Merivale, the historian. A considerable sum was subscribed in the room.

A Pantheon for the reception of busts, statues, and portraits of the illustrious men of Norway, is about to be built at Eidsvold, near Christiania. The first of the illustrious band is to be Saint Olaus, who introduced Christianity into that country.

Monday, the 20th, will be a great day at Messrs. Christie and Manson's for the admirers of Turner. The five well-known pictures in oil by that artist, in the collection of Mr. Windus, are to be submitted to competition on that day. *Venice: Evening—Going to the Ball; Morning—Returning from the Ball; Flight into Egypt; Glauco and Scylla; and The Approach to Venice.* The last is described by Mr. Ruskin, in his 'Modern Painters,' as "one of the most beautiful bits of colour ever done by any man, by any means, at any time"! The late Mr. Woodburn's pictures are, we believe, to be sold on the 24th.

The greatest musical novelty of the week has been the appearance of the celebrated Cologne Choral Singers, whose performance at the Hanover

Square Rooms on Tuesday was a most remarkable display of vocal harmony. The Society, which numbers above a hundred and seventy members, was represented on this occasion by eighty singers, led by Herr Franz Weber, the founder and director of the Union. The concert on Tuesday amply fulfilled the expectations raised by the high reputation of the Cologne singers on the Continent. The effects in the *Wasserfahrt* of Heine, the music by Mendelssohn, in the 'Abendlied, or Evening Song,' by Otto, and in other pieces in the programme, were very striking. A chorus Quartett, by A. Zölner, sung by voices behind the platform, was beautifully given. The precision of time, and the gradation of tone, in a choir of so many voices, are wonderful. The brilliant pianoforte performance of Mdlle. Clauss agreeably varied the entertainment.

The annual benefit concert of Miss Dolby and Mr. Lindsay Sloper was given on Monday, at the Hanover Rooms. The band of the Orchestral Union, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Mellon, ably sustained the instrumental part of the concert. Mr. Sloper's performance of Beethoven's First Symphony, and of Moschele's First Concerto in G minor, elicited warm and well-merited applause, as did Herr Molique's violoncello concerto. In the vocal performances Miss L. Pyne, Miss Amy Dolby, Signor Gardoni, and F. Lablache took part. Miss Dolby's singing, which formed the chief attraction of the concert, was in her usual style of earnestness and good taste. The pieces were Mozart's 'Addio,' an English ballad, 'I do not seek a brighter lot,' and a new scena, 'Joan of Arc in prison,' the words by Mr. Chorley, the music by Mr. Lindsay Sloper.

The performance of the Musical Harp Union, on Wednesday, was extremely well attended, and the fifth meeting, on Thursday, of the Quartett Association, was the most crowded of the season. Mendelssohn's Quartett No. 3 in B minor, for the pianoforte, violin, viola, and violoncello, was charmingly executed by Miss Goddard, Sainton, Webb, and Piatti, and two quartetts of Mozart and Beethoven, in which Mr. Cooper took part, were performed with great feeling and precision.

The quarrel of the rival opera managers about Johanna Wagner has long been forgotten by the general public, but the matters proceed in the courts of law. Decision has been given in the Court of Queen's Bench on the question of the liability to an action on the alleged ground of causing Miss Wagner to break her contract. The majority of the judges decided that the action was maintainable. It was sufficient to establish the relation as between employer and employed, to entitle the plaintiff to judgment. The case was similar to those in which persons were punishable for causing servants and apprentices to leave their employment. Mr. Justice Coleridge dissented from the judgment of his brother judges, Crompton, Earle, and Wightman, on the ground that an artistic engagement did not imply servitude analogous to an apprentice or labourer. Besides, it was a question of difficult moral and metaphysical casuistry to decide in how far Mr. Gye had 'procured,' *i. e.* 'persuaded with effect,' Miss Wagner to break her contract. Except in very special cases, provided for by statute, the remedy for a breach of contract was against the party to the contract, and it was only by strained application of the Statute of Labourers, 25 of Edward III., that the present action was attempted. The judgment was for the plaintiff.

A most burlesque attempt has been made within the last few days to establish a Spanish opera in the Italian Theatre at Paris, and it has deservedly failed. The opera, by a living Spanish composer, was of more pretension than merit, and the execution of it, both vocal and instrumental, is said to have been poor in the extreme. One half of the performers in this 'Spanish' work were French, and half of the other half Italians.

A monument to Orlando Lasso, the celebrated Belgian composer of sacred music, is about to be erected in his native city of Mons. He was born in 1530 and died in 1585. His different compositions amount to the enormous number of 1610.

The chief novelty at the theatres this week has been the successful production of a five-act drama at the Haymarket, called *The Cruel Kindness*, by Mrs. Crowe, author of 'Susan Hopley,' but we have not space this week to speak of it in detail. The scenery and dresses are extremely picturesque, and no expense appears to have been spared in making them appropriate to the period and country in which the play is drawn. The actors and actresses, it must be confessed, however, seem hardly to rise to the spirit and intentions of the authoress; indeed, wherever refinement is wanted they prove themselves unequal to it. Mlle. Rachel continues to attract a morbid aristocracy by her tragic representations at the St. James's. Her tremor is as tremulous and her vigour as vigorous as ever. For our own part, we prefer the charming impersonations of Lafont and Regnier in *petite comédie*. Next month we are promised a return of Emil Devrient and the German company, and we shall again have an opportunity of seeing some of the principal dramas of Goethe and Schiller in the original. Of Shakspeare à l'Allemand we are to have *Hamlet*, *Othello*, and *Taming of the Shrew*.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION. — March 4th. — The Duke of Northumberland, K.G., F.R.S., President, in the chair. Edward A. Freeman, Esq., M.A., 'On the Constructive Principles of the Principal Styles of Architecture.' The lecturer stated his object to be to trace out the essential character of the principal styles of architecture as directly derived from their constructive principles, with as little reference as possible either to mere ornamental detail, or to the outlines and ground-plans of buildings. The latter are closely connected with the question of actual style; they modify it and they are modified by it; but they are directly derived from considerations of habit, convenience, or religion, rather than from the real constructive origin and principle of the style itself. The constructive origin of each primitive and unborrowed style is generally to be looked for in the sort of primitive habitation which each nation seems to have imitated in its first architectural works—that, namely, with which each had been most familiar in its primitive and uncivilized state. This subject has been worked out in the well-known Essay of Mr. Hope, and more recently treated of by the lecturer himself in his 'History of Architecture.' The Egyptian architecture reproduced the primitive excavation, the Grecian the primitive hut, the Chinese the primitive tent; each presenting a stone imitation of the earlier and ruder fabric. The constructive principle of a style depends upon the manner in which it connects distant masses, as when two walls are connected by a roof, or two jambs united into a doorway. This connexion must be effected in one of two ways, either by the entablature or the arch. In the entablature system the two upright masses are connected by a third laid on the top of them, and kept together simply by cohesion: in the arch system, the connexion is effected by a series of masses (technically called *voussoirs*) which, when arranged in a certain manner, are kept together without direct support from below, according to a certain law of the mechanical powers. The entablature can only have one direction, one essentially horizontal; but of the arch there are two principle forms, the round and the pointed, whose æsthetic effect is widely different. Hence we have three principal forms, the entablature, the round arch, the pointed arch; each having its own leading idea, those respectively of horizontal extension, of simple rest, and of vertical extension, which are found carried to perfection in the three great styles of architecture, the Grecian, the Romanesque, and the Gothic. The simple unadorned construction of the entablature may be traced in many primitive monuments, such as the disinterred cromlechs of north-western Europe, the so-called Druidical circles of the same region, and some of the rudest among the Pelasgian gateways of Greece and Italy. In a

decorative form it produced several important styles of architecture, the native Indian, Persian, and Egyptian styles (all of which must be carefully distinguished from the later works of the Mahometan conquerors in the same countries), and its perfection, the pure and unsurpassable architecture of Greece. These four agree in their constructive principle; they differ in their constructive origin. The Indian and Egyptian are derived from the imitation of excavations in the rock, the Persian and Grecian from the imitation of erections of timber. Passing by the two inferior and less important styles of India and Persia, the lecturer proceeded to contrast at length the two great forms of entablature architecture, the Egyptian and the Grecian. On this head he warmly combated the idea that Grecian architecture was in any way borrowed from Egyptian. He would not at all depreciate the high position belonging to the Egyptian nation, as having attained a great degree of civilization at a very early period, or the great merit of the Egyptian architecture as the first distinct style developed, and one in a high degree stately and solemn, and admirably adapted to the nature of the country and to the genius and the religion of its inhabitants. But he could never admit that a stationary, undeveloping people could ever have had any important influence on a nation whose every product bears the stamp of originality, and which has been the permanent teacher of the human race alike in arts, and arms, and literature, and politics. Our poetry, our philosophy, our institutions, our architecture, are either lineally (however remotely) descended from those of Greece, or have been subject to most important Grecian influence; no such influence can ever be shown on the part of Egypt. The lecturer argued that both external and internal evidence was against any derivation of Greek architecture from Egypt. First, chronology shows us that Greek architecture had begun to exhibit its distinctive features, though by no means in their full perfection, before any intercourse had arisen between Greece and Egypt. That intercourse began in the reign of Psammetichus. Those who assert the derivation of Greek architecture from Egypt never assign it to so late a date, but revert to the fables of Inachus, Danaus, or Cecrops, which the light of modern historical criticism in the hands of Mr. Grote and others has taught us to reject as mere recent inventions. None of these stories derive the least authority from the Homeric poems; it is clear that the only barbarian nation of whom Homer had any clear notion were the Phœnicians; of Egypt he knew just as much as he might have picked up from them. If there be any Egyptian element in Greece, it must have come indirectly through the Phœnicians; but even of this no proof has been offered. Secondly, the whole character of the two architectures is against the supposition; the Egyptian, as was before said, being derived from excavations, the Grecian from timber structures. The lecturer pointed out that all the peculiarities of Egyptian architecture were due to its excavation, referring to his 'History of Architecture' for a more detailed view of the subject. He instanced 1st. The general massiveness of the style. 2nd. The general tendency to sloping walls, of which the pyramids are the full development. 3rd. The character of the intercolumniations, as little more than perforations in the wall. 4th. The stilt or dé on the capital. 5th. The presence of a base and absence of diminution in the shaft—sometimes the actual presence of a counter diminution. 6th. The manner in which painting and sculpture are applied. 7th. The absence of a pediment. In all these points he endeavoured to trace out vestiges of the excavatory origin of the style, and in the opposite characteristics of Grecian architecture no less clear marks of its timber derivation. The true Grecian architecture is the Doric, the direct emanation of the Grecian period, the pure representation of the timber construction. In the great Doric temples of Athens, the idea of horizontal extension, the soul of the entablature construction, is perfectly realized. The Ionic order is probably of foreign origin, and is decidedly a dereliction from the

purity of Grecian architecture. Dr. Layard has found some capitals at Nineveh strongly resembling it; and as the Ionic order arose among the Asiatic Greeks, who were not so pure as their brethren in Hellas, one may reasonably suppose that it was really an innovation derived from a barbaric source. Turning to the arched construction, there can be little doubt that the arch was independently invented in several widely distant ages and countries. Such at least seems to have been the case in China, in Egypt, and in Italy. And unsuccessful attempts at its formation are found still more extensively, not only in the two latter countries, and in Greece and Asia Minor, but also in the mysterious ruined cities of Central America, and in some of the primitive remains in Scotland described by Dr. Daniel Wilson in his 'Archæology and Pre-historic Annals.' The arched form must be accurately distinguished from the arched construction, as the apparent arch often occurs, which has the form, round or pointed, but which is merely composed of over-lapping stones cut into that shape, not of *voussoirs* mutually supporting one another. Numerous varieties, both of the apparent arch, and of attempts at constructing the real one, will be found in Dodwell's Views, and in the more recent works of Sir Charles Fellows. And it is worth noticing that the pointed form seems to have been attempted quite as early, if not earlier, than the round. Indeed, if the first attempt, as seems not unlikely, took the form of overlapping stones inclining to a point, it would clearly be more easy to cut them away into a pointed than into a round shape. The complete form of the pointed arch is found in a gateway at Thoricos, and a very near approach to its construction in one at Tyria. It would seem, however, that the attempt never quite succeeded, and that the greater apparent strength of the round arch drove the designs back upon that form, which was at last brought to perfection both in Italy and Egypt. Whether such was the case in Greece appears extremely doubtful. At all events neither in Greece nor in Egypt did the invention ever give birth to a truly arched architecture. The arch was freely used in Egypt when constructive necessities required, but it never entered into the system of decorative architecture, which was always constructed on the principle of the entablature. The honour of producing a system of architecture of which the arch should be the leading feature was reserved for Italy. Those Roman buildings in which decoration was not aimed at, present, in their square piers and round arches, all the elements of a good and consistent style of architecture. But, as a general rule, the Roman architects in their ornamental structures endeavoured to effect an union of their own system of piers and arches with the Greek system of columns and entablatures, producing an inharmonious and inconsistent result. Numerous instances of the ways in which this union was attempted have been commented on in Mr. Hope's work, while, on the other hand, Mr. Petit has well traced out the way in which, in less enriched structures, the Grecian system of decoration was gradually cast away, becoming altogether secondary in the amphitheatres, and vanishing entirely from the aqueducts. The latter, such as the Pont du Gard in Languedoc, exhibit the system of piers and round arches in its perfect purity. On the other hand, in the palace of Diocletian at Spalato, and in the early Basilicas, the architects boldly allowed the arch to spring directly from the capital of the column, without the intervention of the entablature in any shape. Buildings like these, so far from being examples of a corrupt style, are, in the eye of a philosophical inquirer, the first steps towards restoring Roman architecture to a real purity and consistency which in its palmy days it had never possessed. The true round arched system was now worked out, and the arch provided with an appropriate support of two kinds, the square and the columnar pier. The various forms of Romanesque architecture, the Byzantine, the Lombard of Italy, the Provençal, the German of the Rhine, the Norman of England and Northern France, all adhere to this same construction, and

gradually work out for it an appropriate system of decoration. The Byzantine architecture, as far as the present view is concerned, must be considered as merely one among several varieties of Romanesque; in other respects, the peculiar outlines of its ecclesiastical buildings, and its especial use of the cupola, the noblest offspring of the round arch, might fairly cause it to be looked upon as a distinct class. The German and Norman architecture has gone very far to realise the ideal of the round-arched style, the architecture of mere rest and solidity, without any predominant extension, horizontal and vertical. The lecturer argued warmly in favour of the claim of this style to be considered a pure and perfect one, worthy of being classed alongside of Grecian and Gothic. Romanesque architecture, he contended, had been depreciated, because both classical and Gothic exclusiveness had looked on it with an unfavourable eye; but it was quite possible that a style might be neither Grecian or Gothic, and yet be worthy of being put on an equality with them. If, like them, Romanesque exhibited the full carrying out of the leading æsthetic idea suggested by its own constructive principle, such equality it might fairly claim. At the same time an absolute equality he would not assert; the Gothic ideal was the highest, while the Grecian buildings had attained a higher perfection in their own kind; for the Romanesque ideal itself he would be content with claiming the rank of *ultima inter pares*, while he was inclined to believe that no Romanesque building had approached so near to the perfect realisation of that ideal as had been done in the two other styles by the Parthenon and by St. Ouen's. While the Romanesque styles were growing up among Christian nations, a very important form of arched architecture was developed among the Mahometan nations. The Saracenic style, in its various forms, may be considered as essentially an offshoot from that of Byzantium, though much modified by the introduction of several original elements. Among these the most important was no other than the systematic use of the pointed arch. This shape is prevalent in most of the forms which this species of architecture assumes in the east, but, what is important to observe, such is not the case in that splendid variety which was developed among the Mahometans of Spain. But though the Saracens not only possessed the pointed arch, but systematically employed it on a grand scale, they never developed for it an appropriate system of decoration. The other most characteristic feature is the employment of the stilt as a distinct member of the architecture. Architecture is always purest when what Professor Willis calls the decorative construction coincides with the mechanical construction. According to this law, the point at which the arch springs from the pier, technically called the impost, should be marked by a capital or moulding. It is, however, often convenient in some particular positions to place the decorative impost lower down than the constructive impost, so as to treat as a portion of the arch what is in reality a portion of the pier. This constitutes what is called a stilted arch. In the Saracenic style, this stilt is often made into a distinct member, intervening between the arch and the capital of the column. Now as this style first arose in Egypt, in the mosque erected by Amru, one is strongly tempted to recognise in this singular feature a reproduction of the exactly analogous peculiarity of the elder Egyptian architecture, the *di* interposed between the capital and the entablature. The distinctive feature of the Gothic architecture is therefore neither the mere form of the pointed arch, nor even its systematic use as the principal constructive member. What really distinguishes that glorious style is the working out for it of an appropriate and harmonious system of decoration, and the realising of the great æsthetic idea which it suggests. The mere form, we have seen, is probably more ancient than the round, and may have been all along occasionally employed as caprice or convenience dictated. And that its systematic use, as the principal constructive feature, was introduced into western Christendom from the east, we can hardly doubt, when we con-

sider that its appearance in the twelfth century is exactly simultaneous with the increased intercourse between the two regions consequent upon the Crusades. We may thus see the futility of the various theories propounded by Milner and others, who reduced the question as to the origin of Gothic architecture into a mere question as to the origin of the pointed arch, and sought for the latter in the intersection of round arches and similar sources. From the orientals, then, the western architects learned systematically to employ the pointed arch in the main arcades of their churches and other great buildings, of which the abbey of Malmesbury is not improbably the earliest example in England. But much more remained to be done before Gothic architecture was fully developed; in other words, before the architectural expression of the idea of vertical extension was thoroughly worked out. Those who laid its foundations did but place the pointed arch of the Saracen upon the massive pier of the Norman, and channel its surface with the same ornaments which had adorned its semicircular predecessor. Slowly and gradually was a harmonious system worked out, the progress of this transition forming one of the most interesting pages in the history of the art. The pointed form was extended from the great constructive arches to the smaller arches of doorways, windows, and merely decorative arcades, and the Gothic or vertical principle was carried out in—1st, the use of mouldings affecting the section; 2nd, the clustered, or its substitute the octagonal, pier; 3rd, the round or octagonal instead of the square abacus; 4th, the confirmed use of vaulting. Into the subdivisions of the Gothic style, which he had fully treated of in other works, the lecturer refrained from entering. He would simply mention its two great forms, the Early, in which the principle of subordinating the parts to the whole, so characteristic of Gothic architecture, is applied only to the subordination of the secondary to the primary parts, and the Continuous, which, while effecting this more completely, extends the same principle to the further subordination of the primary parts to the whole. The former includes the Lancet and Geometrical Decorated; the latter the Flowing Decorated, the Perpendicular of England, and the contemporary Flamboyant of the Continent.

June 6th.—A General Meeting of the members was held this day, W. Pole, Esq., F.R.S., treasurer, in the chair, when Alex. W. Grant, Esq., Benjamin Gray, Esq., and Leo Schuster, Esq., were duly elected members. Thanks were voted to Professors E. Forbes and E. Frankland, to B. C. Brodie, Esq., and Dr. John Tyndall, for their communications on May 13, 20, 27, and June 3.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.—May 30th.—John Finlaison, Esq., President, in the chair. 'Concerning the Renewal of Leaseholds for Lives or Years that have been the subject of Settlement,' by C. J. Bunyon, Esq., M.A. The author commenced by considering the obligation to renew properties which had been settled, and alluded to the difficulty of determining the construction to be put upon settlements when they were testamentary. In the case of a leasehold for lives, recourse to insurance appeared desirable, and had been repeatedly approved by the Court, and it was a matter of consideration whether such a course should not be adopted as the rule of courts of equity in most cases. The tenant for life was not bound to renew unless the terms of the will imply an intention to that effect, but when the tenant for life thought proper to renew, the Court considered such renewal to be made for the benefit of those in remainder as well as those in possession, and could interfere to apportion the expenses between the tenant for life and the remainderman. When the tenant for life was under no obligation, and declined to renew, the remainderman might do so for his own benefit. The author cited cases in which the intention of the testator was held apparent upon the will, when the renewal was charged upon the income, when the renewal was charged upon the corpus, and where there was a bare

direction to renew. In the absence of any express direction it had been held that the Court could raise the necessary funds by a mortgage of the estate, and it had been settled that the charge was ultimately to be borne by each party in proportion to the benefit actually or *de facto* derived from the transaction. Some difficulty had been felt in the practical application of this rule, but Lord Thurlow had settled it in an early case where the leasehold was for years, and the author submitted formulae by which the problem involved might be solved. In applying the rule to leaseholds for lives there appeared to be four ways: the first by insuring the life of the new *cestui-que-vie* for the amount of the fine, and compelling the tenant for life in possession to keep down the interest and pay the premiums upon the policy; the second, by estimating the probable benefit derived by the tenant for life, or successive tenants for life, and remainderman by the addition of the new life, and dividing the fine in such proportions; the third, by waiting until the death of the tenant for life, and then estimating the proportions according to the result then experienced; and lastly, by waiting until the lapse of the additional life, and estimating the term thereby gained as if an absolute term. The second was open to the objection that if the amounts to be respectively paid were to be calculated on mathematical principles, they could not be correctly ascertained except upon the assumption that the life of the tenant for life was insurable upon the ordinary terms. Lord Eldon had ruled "that the parties must bear the expense of the renewal in proportion to their respective interests in the estate," but Vice-Chancellor Wigram had ruled the construction "that the parties were to pay in proportion to their actual enjoyment, and not an extent of enjoyment to be determined by a calculation of probabilities." The latter reasoning was not very satisfactory to the actuary. For upon what principle could the calculation be made? Assuming the additional life to be in existence at the death of the tenant for life, after the expiration of a considerable term, in what manner was the amount to be paid by him to be estimated? If he was taken to have been the purchaser of the term absolute, equal to that which he had enjoyed the value of, that term might be more than the fine, leaving nothing for the remainderman to pay for the benefit he actually received. As to the proposition of waiting until the death of the *cestui-que-vie* to fix the proportions, such an arrangement would be liable to this insuperable objection, that it might prevent the complete winding up of the affairs of a deceased tenant for life for half a century.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.**—Geographical, 8½ p.m.—(1. Island of Chusan, by Sir John F. Davis, Bart., with Map; 2. Peninsula of Samaná, in St. Domingo, by Sir Robert Schomburgk, with Map—communicated by the Foreign Office; 3. Rio Negro and Head Waters of the Amazon, by Mr. A. R. Wallace, with Map; 4. Rio Maulé, in Chili, by Captain Walter Hall, with Map; 5. Remarks on the Levels taken in Jerusalem with the Aneroid, by Captain W. Allen, R.N., with Illustrations; 6. Excursion from the Atrato to the Bay of Cupica, by Commander Friend, R.N.—communicated by Captain Barnett, R.N.; 7. Contributions to the Arctic Geography of the Norwegian, by Professor C. Rafn.)
—British Architects, 8 p.m.
- Tuesday.**—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.
—Zoological, 9 p.m.
—Syrro-Egyptian, 7½ p.m.—(1. Mr. Abington, Description of Cylinders in the possession of Dr. Lee; 2. Mr. T. Wright, on some Medieval Travellers to the Holy Land; 3. Rev. Mr. Turnbull, on the Cave of Machpelah; 4. Dr. Plate, Notice of the Meremmeri, a supposed Unicorn Animal.)
- Wednesday.**—Geological, 8½ p.m.—(1. John Morris, F.G.S., on some Sections through the Oolite district of Lincolnshire; 2. Rev. P. B. Brodie, F.G.S., and J. O. Westwood, Esq., on Fossil Insects in the Purbeck and Stonesfield Beds.)
- Thursday.**—Royal, 8½ p.m.
—Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
—Botanic, 3 p.m.—(Rev. C. A. John's Lecture.)
- Saturday.**—Botanic, 4 p.m.
—Asiatic, 8½ p.m.—(Dr. James Bird, on the Empire of the Selencides, and its Influence on the Manners and Customs of the East.)

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, June 8.

As the anonymous is not preserved in the French press, it would seem that writers in the same journal should be infinitely more careful than those of the English press, who are unknown to the public, in abstaining from any compliments on or reference to each other. But French journalists have no such scruples:—the leader-writer in a political *tartine* will find means to lug in a compliment to his colleague who "does" the theatres; and the man of the theatres will laud the colleague who "does" the book-reviewing; and the reviewer will let tears of admiration drop into his ink as he expatiates on the stupendous merits of his "illustrious friend and chief," the principal editor. Even the 'Journal des Débats,' which is the most staid, as well as the ablest, of the daily newspapers, is not free from the extreme foolishness; and the other day it gave a very curious example of it. Jules Janin, you are aware, some time ago published two volumes, consisting of a selection from his *feuilletons* in the 'Journal des Débats' during the last twenty years;—and, so far from a 'Débats' writer hesitating to praise a 'Débats' writer in the 'Débats,' M. S. de Sacy—who, it is said, *par parenthèse*, is one of the most brilliant journalists and one of the most learned critics of the day—devotes three long columns of the heartiest eulogium it is possible to conceive to Janin's book. Amongst other things, he says of him, that "his name is known from one end of the world to the other!" And, not content with thus speaking of Janin, he deems it perfectly becoming to speak to him in the same admiring strain: "O my dear friend," he cries in conclusion, "I am too happy to have had this opportunity of rendering justice to your wit, your talent, the generosity of your sentiments, the uprightness and goodness of your heart. But you will do the same for me, will you not? I do not mean, however, to publish a book in my turn, for, alas! my poor articles, the labour of all my life, will have lost by time all that constituted their little merit—*à propos*; and who now cares for my defence of public rights and of liberty, when everybody thinks only of his interests and his repose? But if I die the first, which seems to me very probable, you will give my memory a niche in your *feuilleton* of the following Monday—will you not, my dear friend?"

Talking of Jules Janin—it is well known that he has the strange mania of studding his theatrical lucubrations with quotations in Greek and Latin, from the poets and orators, the historians and philosophers of antiquity, and even from the Fathers of the Church. That in so doing he proves that he has read a good deal, cannot be denied; but it is not so clear that he has, as Bacon would say, digested his reading; and it is certain that he violates good taste,—for if, as Horace tells us, in play-writing the gods should only be introduced to settle difficulties worthy of their exalted dignity, we may assume that in play-criticising, quotations from renowned and grave writers should only be made on fitting occasions, and assuredly such occasions cannot often be created by the trumpery *vaudevilles* which form nine-tenths of the literary productions of the Parisian stage. And not only does Janin's rage for learned citation give his *feuilletons* the grotesque air of Harlequin's coat, and shock literary propriety, but it often leads him into the most gross and comical blunders. This very week, for example, one of the journals has detected him in a huge one. "Ah!" he cried, in his Monday's *feuilleton*, in a fit of virtuous indignation against certain naughty doings of the heroine of a *vaudeville*—"Ah! how much better would it have been for her to have pondered over Scaliger's *Opus de emendatione temporum*, instead of making love with Monsieur Jules!" The notion of trotting out the erudite Scaliger in this way is grand in the extreme; but the best of the fun is, that the work in question is a treatise on *chronology*, and not, as worthy J. J. assumed, on morality.

The musical circles have been a good deal amused by a strange adventure:—A few days ago a young

man, well known, it appears, in certain circles of Paris for his extreme vanity, went to the Director of the Grand Opera, and said, "Sir, I offer you 32,000*l.* to make over your privilege to me!" "Thirty-two thousand pounds!" cried the stupefied director. "Are you serious?" "Perfectly," was the reply; "and to convince you that I am so, I refer you to my friends Messrs. So-and-so, who will tell you that the money is ready to be paid the moment you accept my offer." The Director hastened to the gentlemen named, and they confirmed the statement. Knowing that 32,000*l.* do not drop from the clouds every day, the director declared his willingness to accept them, and immediately, by a formal agreement, resigned his privilege to the stranger. "And now," said the latter, "let the company be called before me." Singers and musicians, and dancers and employés of all kinds, from the principal tenor down to the meanest candle-snuffer, appeared with all due humility in his dread presence; some he received affably, others coldly; of some he renewed the engagements, and others, with a haughty wave of the hand, he discharged. This done, he examined the list of free admissions, and struck off names by wholesale, and introduced others as freely. Then he ordered the architect to attend him. "What place is this I am in?" "The manager's room." "You must furnish it in more sumptuous style, and make such and such changes. What is that large room there?" "The place for the chorus to practise in." "Let the choruses go somewhere else, and transform it into my *salle de reception*. What rooms are those?" "The private apartments of the manager." "Turn them into stables for my horses. What is that place?" "The practising-room of the *corps de ballet*." "Make it my kitchen." Having decreed these changes behind the scenes, the worthy gentleman gave orders for equally extensive ones in the stage and the body of the house. Everybody was thunderstruck at so much grandeur,—and well he might be. But as the Grand Opera belongs to the Government, it became necessary to obtain its consent to the nomination of the new and reforming director. Alas! however, for the great man; the Government would not hear talk of him, or his 32,000*l.* And he was accordingly, without much ceremony, ejected from the theatre, to, it must be said, the great delight of everybody connected with it. The moral of this adventure is—that the French have sometimes a very strange way indeed of doing strange things.

VARIETIES.

The Dropped Number of 'The Idler.'—Dr. Johnson, after writing 'The Rambler,' and a great part of 'The Adventurer,' enriched a weekly newspaper, called 'The Universal Chronicle, or Weekly Gazette,' with his very pleasing periodical, 'The Idler.' He began it in April 1758, and continued it till April 1760, and, at one number a week, produced 104 papers. But in the collected editions of 'The Idler' we find only 103. Turning to what is now No. 22, we sometimes find it stated in a note, that this number was substituted for another which originally stood there. Mr. Boswell says, that when he collected 'The Idler' into volumes, he omitted one of the original papers, which in the folio copy (the newspaper, I presume) is No. 22. Now, Dr. Johnson did no such thing. No. 21 is dated September 2, 1758, and the present 22 is dated September 16, 1758, therefore the paper of September 9 does not appear in its place as it ought to do. But, what is quite decisive, there is a Dublin copy of 'The Idler,' which I have seen, containing 104 numbers, and the now omitted one is in its proper place. The number which has thus been dropped is one of the best written and most amusing of the whole series. It contains the instructions of a vulture to her young how to procure the flesh of man, the most delicious of all food for the vulture race. Goldsmith once said to Johnson, very smartly, "If you were to make little fishes talk,

they would talk like whales." Now, whether the vulture character was congenial to Johnson or not, he certainly does not make them talk like linnetts, but in a style that Goldsmith would have approved. "Tell us," said the young vultures, "where man may be found, and how he may be known; his flesh is surely the natural food of a vulture. Why have you never brought a man in your talons to the nest?" "He is too bulky," said the mother; "when we find a man we can only tear away his flesh, and leave his bones upon the ground." "Since man is so big," said the young ones, "how do you kill him?" "The vultures," returned the mother, "would seldom feast upon his flesh had not Nature, that devoted him to our uses, infused into him a strange ferocity, which I have never observed in any other being that feeds upon the earth. Two herds of men will often meet and fill the air with fire. When you hear noise and see fire, with flashes along the ground, hasten to the place with your swiftest wing, for men are surely destroying one another; you will then find the ground smoking with blood, and covered with carcasses, of which many are dismembered and mangled for the convenience of the vulture." After these specimens, I hope No. 22 and the vultures will be restored to their right place in the editions of 'The Idler.'

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FREEHOLD LAND, COUNTY VOTES, AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT!—THE SEVENTH PUBLIC DRAWING for choice of Freehold Allotments on the Estates purchased for the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY, in various counties, will take place at Three o'clock on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15th, at the FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, at the Third Quarterly General Meeting of the Members. All persons taking a £50 share and paying 12s. 6d. thereon at or before the drawing, will participate in the advantage thereof. Shareholders are placed on the order of right for selection of lots, either by completion, by drawing, or by seniority of membership. Plans of the Estates may be seen at the Offices, 33, NORFOLK STREET, STRAND, which are open from Ten to Five, except on Mondays and Fridays, and then from Ten to Eight o'clock.

CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

Now published, and to be had free on application.
THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, containing full details as to Progress and Present Position, and as to the First Division of Profits which has now been made.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Intending Life Assurers, and Policy-holders in other Companies, are invited to examine the Rates, Principles, and Provisions of the SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, the only Society in which the advantages of Mutual Assurance can be obtained at moderate premiums. Since its establishment in 1837 it has issued upwards of 600 Policies, covering Assurances exceeding £2,500,000, a result the more satisfactory as no indiscriminate Commission has been paid for it. The whole regulations and administration of the Society are as liberal as is consistent with safety and right principle.

Every information afforded, either personally or by letter, on application to **GEORGE GRANT, Resident Secretary**, London Branch, 12, Moorgate Street.

PREMIUMS REDUCED THIRTY PER CENT.
 ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS.

GREAT BRITAIN MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 14, Waterloo Place, London, & 30, Brown Street, Manchester.

Directors.

THE CHISHOLM, Chairman.
Richard Hartley Kennedy, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
 Colonel Michael E. Bagnold, Esq., William Morley, Esq., Francis Brodigan, Esq., Robert Francis Power, Esq., Alexander Robert Irvine, Esq., M.D., John Inglis Jerdein, Esq., Archibald Spens, Esq., James John Kinloch, Esq., Frederick Valliant, Esq., Henry Lawson, Esq., Rev. E. W. J. Vickery.

This Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy-holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the current Premiums.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 26th of May, 1853, when a Report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared that whilst the Assurances effected in 1851 were 44 per cent. beyond those of 1850, nearly 70 per cent. beyond those of 1849, and 130 per cent. beyond those of 1848, the Assurances effected in 1852 considerably exceeded those of 1851, 325 new Policies having been issued in that year, covering Assurances to the extent of £186,000, the yearly premiums on which amounted to £208 18s. It also appeared that the transactions of the first five months of the present year were greater than those of the corresponding months of 1852, or of any preceding year, whilst during the whole period referred to, the claims arising from deaths were much below their estimated amount. A resolution was thereupon passed, continuing a reduction of 30 per cent. on the Premiums payable on all Policies on the participating scale, on which five or more Annual Premiums had been previously paid.

Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premiums for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:—

Age when Assured	Amount Assured	Annual Premium hitherto paid	Reduction of 30 per cent.	Annual Premium now payable
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 5 3	14 12 3
25	1000	22 0 0	6 18 0	16 2 0
35	1500	43 15 0	13 2 6	30 12 6
45	2000	80 11 8	24 3 6	56 8 2

A. R. IRVINE,

Managing Director.

14, Waterloo Place, London.

NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY,

4, New Bank Buildings, Lothbury.

PRESIDENT.—His Grace the DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
Sir Peter Laurie, Alderman, CHAIRMAN.

THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of the Proprietors of this Company was held on the 7th instant, when a Report by the Directors, on the business of the year ending 31st December last, was read, showing that, in the life department, 259 new Policies were issued in the course of the year, insuring £236,327, and paying of annual premiums £9000 18s. 6d., and the sum of £34,012 8s. 4d. was added to the Accumulated Life Fund.

The benefits of Life Assurance are afforded by this Company to their utmost extent, combined with perfect security in a fully subscribed Fund of One Million, besides an accumulating Premium Fund exceeding £654,000, and a Revenue from Life Premiums alone of more than £108,000, which is annually increasing. Nine-tenths, or Ninety per cent. of the profits, are septennially divided among the Insurers on the participation scale of Premiums. On Insurances for the whole life, half the premium may remain in credit for the first five years.

Tables of increasing Rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract.

Premium to insure £100 at death.

Age	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of Life.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	18 2 0	19 2 0	20 2 0	21 2 0	22 2 0	118 2 0
30	13 9 1	15 2 1	16 5 1	17 8 1	19 0 1	210 5 1
40	11 10 1	13 9 1	15 10 1	17 11 1	20 6 3	383 8 3

Specimens of the Bonuses added to Policies to 1851, to which will be added a prospective Bonus of one per cent. per annum on the sum insured and previously declared Bonuses, in the event of death before December, 1859, and in which prospective Bonus all new Insurers on the Profit scale will participate.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses.	Amount.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1845	5000	1926 2 4	6926 2 4
1846	2000	770 9 9	2770 9 9
1848	3000	1038 2 4	4038 2 4

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and full particulars, may be obtained from the Secretary, 4, New Bank Buildings, London, or from any of the Agents of the Company.

ROBERT STRACHAN, Secretary.
 4, New Bank Buildings,
 March, 1853.

LOANS IN CONNEXION WITH LIFE ASSURANCE.

Individuals possessing real or personal property—officers in the army or navy—clergymen—professionals—merchants—tradesmen—and persons of respectability, may, by assuring with the TRAFALGAR LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, obtain advances for periods varying from one month to any other period, upon the following securities:—

Upon Freehold or Leasehold Property in England, upon Reversions, Annuities, Sign-manual Pensions, or any other description of assignable property, or income in connexion with Life Assurance.

Upon Personal Security, by the borrower procuring responsible securities to join him in a bond or other security for repayment, and on condition of the life of the borrower, or at least one of his sureties, being assured for a proportionate amount.

TRAFALGAR LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION. Capital, £250,000, fully subscribed for by a registered, and most responsible proprietary, consisting of several hundreds of Shareholders. Incorporated by Act of Parliament.—Chief Offices, 40, Pall Mall, London.

The business of this Association embraces the granting of:—

1. Life Assurances on healthy, declined, doubtful, or diseased lives.
2. Guarantees for Fidelity of Trust combined with Life Assurance.
3. Immediate and Deferred Annuities.
4. Loans in connexion with Life Assurance on personal and other securities.

The whole of these four important branches of business are transacted by this Association on the most favourable terms.

GUARANTEE FOR FIDELITY OF TRUST, COMBINED WITH LIFE ASSURANCE. The Directors of the TRAFALGAR LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION grant policies combining the above objects on peculiarly favourable terms.

DISEASED, DOUBTFUL, OR DECLINED LIVES.

The Directors of the TRAFALGAR LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION grant Assurances at moderate rates of premium, not only on the lives of persons who have been rejected by other offices, but also on those who may be suffering from Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Disease of the Heart, Apoplexy, Epilepsy, Disease of the Liver, Dropsy, Scrofula, Gout, Rheumatism, &c. &c.

AGENCY. The Directors of the TRAFALGAR LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION continue to receive applications from respectable parties (accompanied with references) resident in the various towns in England and Scotland, for the Agency of this Institution. The commission allowed is highly remunerative, while the important and numerous branches of business undertaken, afford greater facilities than at most other offices for the exertions of active and influential agents.

The business of this Association embraces the granting of:—

1. Life Assurances on healthy, declined, doubtful, or diseased lives.
2. Guarantees for Fidelity of Trust combined with Life Assurance.
3. Immediate and Deferred Annuities.
4. Loans in connexion with Life Assurance on personal and other securities.

Applications for detailed prospectuses, forms of proposal, agencies, and all other information, are requested to be made to

THOMAS H. BAYLIS, Manager and Secretary.

Chief Offices—40, Pall Mall, London.

N.B. Agents wanted throughout England and Scotland.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

No. 1, Princes Street, Bank, London.—Established Aug. 1, 1837.—Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vict. cap. 9.

Col. ROBERT ALEXANDER, Blackheath Park, Chairman.

Increasing Rates of Premium for securing Loans or Debts.

Half Premiums only required during first seven years.

Assurances payable during Life.

Provision, during minority, for Orphans.

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Empowered by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

Profit divided annually.

Premiums computed for every Three Months' difference of age.

Half Credit Assurance on a new plan peculiarly advantageous to policy holders.

At the last Annual General Meeting a reduction of 30 per cent. was made in the current year's premium on all participating Policies.

(PROPRIETARY.)				(MUTUAL.)			
Age.	Half Premium First Seven Years.	Whole Premium Remainder of Life.	Yrs.	Age.	Annual Premium.	Half-Yearly Premium.	Quarterly Premium.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Mths.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30	1 1 9	2 3 6	3	2 7 3	1 4 2	0 12 3	3
40	1 9 2	2 18 4	4	3 7 6	1 4 4	0 12 4	4
50	2 2 6	4 5 0	5	2 7 10	1 4 6	0 12 5	5
60	3 6 8	6 13 4	6	2 8 2	1 4 8	0 12 6	6

E. R. FOSTER, Resident Director.

ANDREW FRANCIS, Secretary.

BRITISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH, Hamilton Place, New Road, London.

The principles of the HYGIENIC or MORISONIAN SYSTEM are contained in the following propositions:—

1. The vital principle is in the blood.
2. Everything in the body is derived from the blood.
3. All constitutions are radically the same.
4. All diseases arise from impurity of the blood, or, in other words, from acrimonious humours lodged in the body.
5. Pain and disease have the same origin, and may therefore be considered synonymous.
6. From the intimate connexion subsisting between mind and body, the health of the one must conduce to the serenity of the other.
7. Proper purgation by vegetables is the only effective mode of eradicating disease.
8. The discovery of a vegetable compound, capable of being digested, and mixing with the blood, so as to impart to it the energy requisite for ridding the body of all impurities, was a desideratum.
9. This discovery was made by JAMES MORISON, the Hygienist, in the composition of the Vegetable Universal Medicine (Morison's Pills), of the British College of Health, Hamilton Place, New Road, London.

UNIVERSITY LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1825 BY ROYAL CHARTER.

24, SUFFOLK STREET, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON.

CAPITAL, £600,000.

President.

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Proposals for Assurances to be addressed to the SECRETARY, or to John Wray, Esq., Chairman of the Committee, 24, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, London; or to the Corresponding Directors, M. J. Johnson, Esq., M.A., Observatory, Oxford; H. Gunning, Esq., M.A., or Wm. Hopkins, Esq., M.A., Cambridge, from whom Forms of Proposals may be obtained.

CHARLES M. WILLICH, Secretary and Actuary.

A POST-OFFICE SAVINGS' BANK.

BIRKBECK LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Act of Parliament. Capital, £100,000, in 100,000 shares at £1 each. Offices, 8, Moorgate Street.

PRESIDENT.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Carlisle.

Trustees.

Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, M.P.; Douglas Jerrold, Esq.

This Company, which is now represented in all the important Mechanics' Institutes of the country, is transacting the business of Life Assurance, Sick Benefits, Annuities, and Emigration, and other small Loans.

By the peculiar system of this Company, the working classes will be enabled to invest their Savings in the Investment Fund, through the medium of the Post-office, and to secure in this way a much greater profit than is granted by Savings' Banks. Deposits of not less than Two Shillings and Sixpence are received daily at the office, and may be remitted from the country, when the sum is under £1, in postage stamps; and above this sum in the form of a Post-office Order, made payable to Mr. GEORGE COLE, the Secretary, at the General Post Office. In return for all Deposits Stock Vouchers are issued.

Depositors may withdraw half their deposits at three months' notice, and the remainder at six months' notice; but the Directors will be ready at all times to entertain applications from depositors for immediate advances on their stock vouchers—hereby giving to the Investment Branch of the Company's plan the character of a safe and highly remunerative Savings' Bank.

W. BLANCHARD JERROLD, Acting Director.

Forms for Life Assurance, Annuities, Loans, and Investments, may be had on application at the Office, No. 8, Moorgate Street, City.

NUMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S-CHURCHYARD.

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We can now supply a strong full-flavoured and very useful Black Tea at 3s. 6d. per pound.

All purchasers may rest assured that they will continue to secure every advantage both as regards price and quality when purchasing their Teas and Coffees of

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THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST.

Although we sell Black Tea at 3s. per lb., and good Black Tea at 3s. 4d., Strong Coffee at 10d., and Fine Coffee at 11d. per lb. we still say to all who study economy, that

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particularly when the best can be obtained from us at the following

prices:—
 The best Congou Tea 3s. 8d. per lb.
 The best Imperial Souchong Tea 4 0 "
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 The best West India Coffee 1 4 "
 The best Plantation Ceylon 1 0 "

Tea or Coffee, to the value of 40s., sent carriage free, to any part of England, by **PHILLIPS and Co., Tea Merchants, No. 8, King William Street, City.**

A general Price Current sent free by post on application.

SOUND AND WHITE TEETH are not only

indispensably requisite to a pleasing exterior in both sexes, but they are peculiarly appreciated through life as a blessing highly conducive to the purposes of health and longevity. The great esteem in which the public have long held ROWLANDS' ODONTO, or Pearl Dentifrice, precludes the necessity here of entering into a minute detail of its merits, and the singular advantages it so eminently possesses over the usual powders sold for the teeth. It is sufficient to observe that ROWLANDS' ODONTO not only has the property of rendering the above beautiful organs of the mouth dazzlingly white, but it strengthens their organic structure, and fulfils the pleasing task of rendering the breath sweet and pure. It should never (in particular) be forgotten that, when used early in life, it prevents all aches in the Teeth and Gums—effaces spots and discolorations—eradicates scurf—and, in a word, soon realises the chief attribute of Health and Beauty—A FINE SET OF PEARLY TEETH! Price 2s. 9d. per box. CAUTION.—The words "Rowlands' Odonto" are on the label, and "A Rowland and Sons, 20, Hatten Garden," engraved on the Government stamp affixed on each box. Sold by them, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

A CLEAR COMPLEXION.—GODFREY'S

EXTRACT OF ELDER FLOWERS is strongly recommended for Softening, Improving, Beautifying, and Preserving the SKIN, and giving it a blooming and charming appearance, being at once a most fragrant, perfectly safe and delightful cosmetic. It will completely remove Tan, Sun-burn, Redness, &c., and by its balsamic and healing qualities, render the skin soft, pliable, and free from dryness, scurf, &c., clear it from every humour, pimple, or eruption; and by continuing its use only for a short time, the skin will become soft and continue soft and smooth, and the complexion perfectly clear and beautiful.—Sold in bottles, and 2s. 9d., with directions for using it, by all Medicine Vendors and Perfumers.

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WITH

AN INTRODUCTION TO ANCIENT GEOGRAPHY,

AND

AN INDEX, IN TWO PARTS.

I. THE ANCIENT BEFORE THE MODERN NAMES OF COUNTRIES, CITIES, &c.

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BY ALEXANDER G. FINDLAY, F.R.G.S.

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